Adjournment motion regarding Water Scarcity in Trichur.

President.—The Member for Trichur has sent in a motion for an adjournment of the House to discuss, according to him, a matter of urgent, public importance. It is about the water scarcity in Trichur. The House had already ample opportunity to discuss about it, and has it under P. W. D. cuts. Further, it is not of such an urgency, specially in this part of the year, to invoke the provisions of the adjournment motion. So, I have to regretfully decline to grant the leave asked for.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, is it not necessary to ask the person who submits an adjournment motion to give an explanation why the motion is of an urgent nature ? It is only after listening to the explanation that the President generally gives his ruling. I just point it out that generally, in fairness to the person who moves this resolution, a chance is given to him to show to the President that the matter is of public importance and that it is urgent. I regret I was not enabled to give the necessary explanation to the President.

President.—Is there any rule to that effect ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Anyhow the President has given his ruling.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—No.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—A statement under Rule 20 (1) is expected to be exhaustive and self-explanatory, Sir.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I know the rule, Sir. But that has been the custom.

Voting of Demands for Grants (*contd.*):—

Demand No. XXVII—Public Works—Rs. 11,70,034.

Motion No. 16—(contd.)

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, on a point of personal explanation, in the reply the Member for Medicine brought to the notice of this House that we (the two doctor Members) were the first to bring this idea into the Council. I admit I was the first person who brought the idea of having paid wards in the hospitals at Ernakulam and Trichur. My impression then was out of the large number of beds 10 or 12 may be reserved for paying wards and not to put up a new building. When the question of Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 40,000 for putting up a new building was moved in the last budget, my argument was the same. Even now we do not stand against the provision of setting apart 6 or 10 beds in the General Hospital as paid wards, out of the beds already in existence in the General Hospital. I do not deny that it was I who first moved on the matter nor do I stand against it now. I am against the erection of a new building at a cost of Rs. 40,000 or more for 6 beds.

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Any explanation wanted?

President.—No.

Dr. E. A. Veigas.—I rise to oppose the motion brought by the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam to reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,500 for the paying ward by Rs. 5,500. The objection raised is that the amount sanctioned by this House of Rs. 20,000 has been in the estimate exceeded by Rs. 5,500. It was in the Budget Session of 1101 that Dr. A. G. Menon brought to the notice of Government the great inconvenience and hardship felt for want of a paying ward not only in the General Hospital but also at Trichur. He further said that he was surprised to see that the idea of providing even bare accommodation for paying patients has not entered the heads of those who were in charge of reconstruction and administration work. It will, therefore, be seen that it was not on the initiation of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that the proposition for a paying ward was taken up. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer did it because the Members clamoured for the supply of this want. The original estimate of Rs 40,000 was cut down to Rs. 20,000, and now just because the estimate exceeded the Rs 20,000, this cut motion was tabled. The Hon'ble Member for Trichur is not for the paying ward. He thinks the money sanctioned is simple waste. He took exception to a remark of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that operations of a very serious nature should be performed in the hospital and not outside. I agree with the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer in this opinion of his. The Ernakulam General Hospital has an up-to-date operation room, fine aseptic furniture, the latest and best surgical instruments for all sorts of operation, sterilizing, etc. The Hospital has an X-Ray apparatus, a laboratory, Doctors trained in laboratory work and X-Rays, nurses in charge of sterilizing, nurse to help up operations, nurses to attend on patients after operation night and day. You see what great advantage the Government Medical Officers have over private practitioners. Can a private practitioner command all these facilities; no, none at all. I would advise all private practitioners to send all cases requiring abdominal section and other serious operations to the Hospital and not to conduct operations in buildings not adapted for the purpose. Respectable and well-to-do patients resort to the Hospital for serious operations on account of these facilities. What sort of accommodation will you set aside for them? A poking room in the pay wards will be room for serious surgical cases. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer ought to know the

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wants of such patients, and it is, therefore, absolutely necessary to give him a free hand in the matter of the construction of the pay wards. I see before me in the House Most of the members young, healthy, and with hot blood flowing in their veins. They don't care a jot for doctors, nurses, and patients. We don't know when illness necessitating serious operations will overtake us. God forbid. Would you like when you are taken to the hospital to occupy a poky room in the pay ward? I, therefore, ask that this estimate of Rs. 10,500 may be passed.

Before I sit down I would like to bring to the kind consideration of Government the case of Trichur Hospital. I spent nearly half my official life in that hospital. I am sorry to say that that hospital requires more accommodation. A block of building for 40 patients may be constructed on the ground behind the main building. Ample space is available. I also recommend a new up-to-date operation room, and that the present operation room may be utilised for septic cases. A paying ward may also be sanctioned in the near future. With these words I sit down.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—On a point of information. May I know from the Chief Engineer whether this building under construction, this paying ward, is being built?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—How far has it advanced, please?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The downstairs is finished, and the floor is being laid.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Will you please say whether this Rs. 5,750 that is now proposed to be cut is absolutely necessary for completing the building?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes, it is quite necessary.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I want you only to say categorically whether this amount is required for completing the building.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is quite necessary.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Well, in that case, I very much regret that this amount is included in the budget in spite of the cut motion of last year. However, I would request the Members to kindly reconsider the matter seriously. I really do not want the building to be left half complete. In any case, the building has to be completed. And so, the Government may be obliged to spend the amount and certify the same. So my opinion in this matter is that, although as a matter of fact, it is very regrettable that the matter was rushed through like this before

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taking the consent of the House, we had better allow the money. If not, the Government will say that this amount is absolutely necessary, and certify and spend the same. The question is whether we should force the Government to spend the amount and certify the same.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—May I say one word in explanation, Sir? What I would like the Hon'ble Members to consider is the spirit in which the Diwan consented to reduce the cost of that particular building from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 20,000. We had an idea of constructing a building costing Rs. 40,000 with certain amount of accommodation for paying wards. We thought that there would be so many people likely to want it, and that a certain number of beds and other accommodation had to be provided. The House thought that it was too much and said that Rs. 20,000 would be enough; that is to say, that half the accommodation originally intended was sufficient. That was the spirit in which the Diwan accepted the suggestion. Suppose an owner wants to put up a building with 40 rooms. When the cost is made out, suppose the owner says that he cannot afford it. He says he does not want 40 rooms but wants only 20 rooms; but the cost of the building with 20 rooms will not be exactly half of the previous estimate. That is the trouble here also. We wanted to put up a building with half the accommodation of a building costing Rs. 40,000. You see there is a Malayalam proverb, "കലം ചൊരുതുമ്പോൾ അടുപ്പുകല്ല് മുന്നോണം," You see we have cut down the accommodation to half, and that in accordance with the wishes of the House. When we make an estimate for half the accommodation, you think that only half the amount would be necessary. What has happened is that for half the original accommodation the cost has come to more than half the estimate for the original accommodation.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The original estimate was for Rs. 1,70,000.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I do not know that. What I know is the estimated amount was Rs. 40,000, and it has been reduced to Rs. 20,000, and that means an accommodation to half of the original accommodation. But the actual cost is a little more than half. That is the real reason why the cost is Rs. 25,500 instead of Rs. 20,000.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There was no estimate for Rs. 1,70,000.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The original estimate was for Rs. 1,70,000. The Chief Engineer, Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon, plainly said so in this House in the last Budget Session

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when I protested that such a large sum of rupees should not be spent for *six* beds. I shall read that portion of the Chief Engineer's speech. (Vide Vol. III, Part 20, page 1540 of our Official Proceedings.)

"Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—As it is, it is misleading. This allotment of Rs. 40,000 does not represent the whole expenditure. The total expenditure for the proposed building is Rs. 1,70,000".

So from the above speech it is clear that there was an estimate. The total estimate for the proposed building was Rs. 1,70,000. That was the original estimate. But only Rs. 40,000 was brought before the Council of which the Council only allowed Rs. 20,000.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Is this Rs. 20,000 for the paying wards alone, that is, for the building under construction?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How many beds will there be, Sir?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Six beds in six separate rooms.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is there any accommodation in the building for any other purpose?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—In this building there will be accommodation for nurses, for furniture, for storeroom, etc., which are necessary for these patients. That is all.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—For nurses also?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. Special nurses will be necessary to look after these patients, and they want rooms. So also for furniture, stores, etc.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, I do not think anybody will grudge the construction of a decent pay ward either in the General Hospital here or in the Civil Hospital, Trichur. The Hon'ble Member for Anglo-Indians pointed out that both these hospitals did require paying wards of a modern type. The real complaint is not about these wards, but that something has been done in spite of a cut passed here in the last Council and accepted by the Government. So it is more in the nature of a constitutional agitation, and if the Government would give us an assurance that such things would not be repeated in future, I think all the Members will be satisfied and the motion can be withdrawn.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—On a point of information. After all, are these Doctors attending upon these patients, are they privileged to dictate terms to the patients and take fees, or only attendance in the ordinary way? Are they privileged to take fees from the patients who go into the paying wards?

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Who is privileged ?

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—Doctors attending on those in the paying wards.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is no such rule.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—Are they privileged? Are they allowed to take fees from the patients in the paying wards ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Well there is no rule to allow them to take fees.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—Is there any rule disallowing that ? Suppose a Doctor in the paying ward wants Rs. 50 for one attendance, is there anything disallowing him to demand it from any patient coming into the hospital in the paying ward ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No, no, no. We are going to charge them for the medicines, for the attendance of Doctors, nurses and all those things. The patients will be charged for the remuneration of the Doctors attending on them.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—I have no objection to withdraw my motion if the Government gives me an assurance that this will not be repeated hereafter. (*Hear, hear.*) If the House agrees to allow me to withdraw my motion, I have no objection to withdraw.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—You give that promise. I believe all the Hon'ble Members will agree with me in thinking that this cut motion was tabled not with the main purpose of reducing the cost of the buildings or depriving of the Government of Rs. 5,500 for paying wards but only to emphasise the fact that a principle has been violated by the Government in over-spending money which was restricted by a resolution at the vote of this Council, and which was accepted by the Government. Now we find from the Hon'ble the Chief Engineer that the building cannot be decently completed without this full allotment asked for. What will be the result if we carry the cut motion ? Certainly out of decency of interest to the Public Works Department and for the paying public and for the paying ward, Government will have to spend the amount and certify the expenditure. It is not proper on our part to give room for such an action. On the other hand it will be graceful on the part of the Members who have supported the motion to withdraw their motions or rather to support the Member in withdrawing his motion on the understanding, as I am sure the Government will do that, that no repetition of such violation of the vote of the Council will be done hereafter.

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Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government give that undertaking?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I believe so.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It was not intentional.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—May be this is not at all intentional. Even unintentionally it should not be repeated.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is a part expenditure. We could have certified the expenditure then and there. That is why it was spent this year. It was not very difficult to complete the building and payment to be made in this particular year.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—We want an assurance only that this will not be repeated.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Please let me explain. We wanted the sanction of the Council for the additional expenditure. Since this is a part expenditure, we will be perfectly justified in certifying the expenditure even without a promise as now asked for.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Now that there is an assurance, we are satisfied.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We are perfectly satisfied.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—We insisted upon the Chief Engineer to prepare an estimate within this Rs. 20,000. He said that he could not cut down the expenditure any further. It is only then that the estimate was sanctioned, and it was then and there ordered that the excess amount should be provided in the budget for 1104 and the sanction of the Council obtained. That is the state of things.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Why not that statement come in the budget itself? Then no cut motion would have been moved, and no objection raised.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Has the Member the sanction of the House to withdraw?

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—I withdraw. I said with the sanction of the Council, I withdraw.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

Motions 19, 19A and 20.

A. Civil Engineering—Buildings—Original Works.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "217—Tiffin shed."*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "the acquisition of site, etc." for Girls' High School, Ernakulam" by Re. 1.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "217, Tiffin Room construction, etc.," by Rs. 9,000.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, the object of my

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sending this cut is this. In the first place it is more than a year since the grand opening ceremony of this High school was performed. I want to know how the students were managing to take their tiffin all this time. Again let us compare the state of Ernakulam with that of the mofussil. In Ernakulam, Sir, we have got hotels and for those who come from outside hostels also. Most of the students have got their houses very close to the school. Those who come from a distance have got vehicles, rickshaws, motor cars, and they have got beautiful metalled road. In the mofussil I will give you one instance, and the Hon'ble Members, who come from the mofussil, will give you more instances. In my village, the students, both girls and boys, have to go to Ollur to attend school which is more than four miles from the village. They have to cross a river and during the rainy season they have to risk their lives in a small canoe for half a mile. They have to leave their homes early in the morning and can return only late in the evening. They have to carry their tiffin with them. No adequate provisions are being made in mofussil schools even for the holding of classes, comfortably. Such being the case in the mofussil, I object to the spending of such a big amount for the improvement of a School in the town before improving mofussil schools. If an outsider were to come to Cochin, and if he goes to Ernakulam, he will see the Town Hall fitted with electric fans, huge buildings like the College buildings, the Chief Court, the Huzur Office and lastly the most beautiful building the Girls' High School. Then he will go away with the impression that Cochin is the most progressive State in the whole world. What I say is progress of a State does not exist in the improvement of towns only. It consists in the contentment and happiness of the people of the villages. So I request this House not to allow to spend even a pie more to add beauty to the most beautiful building in Cochin.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Sir, on a point of information. May I know whether this building, this tiffin-shed is under construction?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—No.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know whether you have built a music-shed alone last year, I mean, the current year? You spent about Rs. 10,000 or so. May I also know whether a portion of that building could not be utilised as a tiffin-shed, during interval?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is not exactly for a tiffin-shed.

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I think the wording of the allotment lends itself to a certain amount of mis-conception, and I can understand the difficulty of the Members. If they had read carefully, they would have seen that there are other things included. A part of this amount, I can say more than half of it, is to be devoted for the acquisition of a site. This site is not for the putting up of a tiffin-shed only. Acquisition of site is necessary for other purposes also. For, behind the Girls' School there is hardly one *kole* of ground. There is really no room for the girls to run about. It is an absolute necessity to extend the premises of the Girls' School behind and, therefore, a part of this allotment goes for the acquisition of a site of about 60 cents. The price of land in Ernakulam for 60 cents would come to something like Rs. 6,000, and then what is going to be constructed is a tiffin-shed for a Girls' School with nearly 700 girls, the largest Girls' School in the State. During the interval, you do not expect all the girls to go home. Sufficient accommodation has to be provided, something like 5 or 6 rooms would be necessary. There are a few men teachers, there is a large number of lady teachers, a large number of girls, all these have to be provided with tiffin accommodation, and, therefore, something like 5 or 6 rooms are necessary. And then there is an ecetera. The etc. has also to be taken into account. We want a number of latrines. We have been managing these few months without any permanent latrines. The existing ones are of bamboo and bamboo *thatties*. And then in such a big Girls' School like this, where we have a large number of lady teachers, and girls, and a few men teachers,—

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Still men teachers in Girls' Schools ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—They have a few, because women teachers for Mathematics and Science subjects are not available. I have stated this fact many a time in this House.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Are there no women teachers to teach these subjects ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—All available ones are entertained. Whenever a qualified teacher applies, she is appointed straight away.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—May I know how much the cost of the tiffin-shed will come to ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—For the whole construction Rs. 4,000. A tiffin-shed with 5 or 6 rooms and a few latrines.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What was the extent acquired first ?

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—An acre and a half.

Dr. A.G. Menon.—May I know whether these were not included in the original scheme ? Every one knows what are the necessary buildings required for a big Girls' School like this.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We could not bring it in the estimate for 1103.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—When you began the construction of the school, may I know whether that part of it was left out ? Is it in the original estimate ; that is what I want to know ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It must have been estimated.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I know whether out of this Rs. 10,000, Rs. 4,000 is to be utilised for tiffin-shed, latrines, etc ? To arrive at the exact cost of the tiffin-shed you have to deduct the cost of the latrines, etc. I think the tiffin-shed itself would come to Rs. 3,000. I do not propose to say that we could cut latrines. So, what I say is, seeing that we have spent such a large amount on this school, I do not think we should spend a great lot more of money to give more accommodation for our girls just now. There are poor suffering villages all over the country whose various wants are brought to Government's notice. Their wants also, the Government is bound to consider. And this big amount is for additional space for girls to move about. Can they not use the front spaces for the time being ? Originally an acre and 30 cents was acquired, and there is ample space in the front.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—But where are these latrines to be put up ? Do you mean to say that these could be put up in front or in the quadrangle ?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I never said that.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not think we have got sufficient space. We acquired a plot of 130 cents and a big building is put up. There cannot be sufficient space. So then, we will have to put up the latrines in the front.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—You acquire 2 or 3 cents behind to put up latrines if you think necessary. Is such a big outlay necessary ? Is it absolutely necessary ? What I mean is this. People are clamouring over the State for more public utilities. Here you have already spent a lot of money on the school. A bigger amount was budgetted originally; was it not so ? Was there not a surplus ? Was not that surplus hoarded ? That ought to be called back. If a lakh of rupees is ear-marked for a certain work , if it is not wholly spent, it is not proper to send it back, to be invested or to be put in the

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treasury, and then come next year with another and fresh allotment for the same purpose.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is that so in this case?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—The surplus will not be there. It will be in the treasury as cash balance.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The balance of the amount which is ear-marked for a work during a particular year and which the Government has not spent that year is invested or hoarded up. That balance is included in the next year's budget on the expense side and proposed to be taken out of current revenues of the State, so that the present needs are stifled.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Not always invested. It will be as cash balance in the treasury.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What I say is have you any justification for including a particular head of expenditure in this year's budget when there is a balance unspent out of the funds ear-marked for the purpose in last year's budget. What is generally done is, the balances unspent under a particular head is invested and the current year's revenues utilised for purposes for which money has already been voted. Let it be a pie. You have no right to impose such burden on current year's revenue. You budget the expenditure of this year on the estimated revenue. Use that money for these purposes, and if all of it could not be spent in the year, spend the balance for completing the works next year. Do not hoard the unspent amounts and ask for further grants for the same purposes. The current year's revenue, instead of being utilised for legitimate public purposes that arise during the year, is being utilised for work estimatedfor and money appropriated last year,even though there is sufficient ear-marked balance left. The unspent balances on works are invested or put in the reserve somewhere, and current revenues misappropriated. This is highly objectionable.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—If the expenditure is more than the receipt, we might have to take from the surplus.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That is quite right. But that is not the point here. May I know from the Chief Engineer what the balance was?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was there any balance?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—There was a balance surely. It was Rs. 20,000 or more.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On a point of information. My question is still unanswered. What was the original estimate and whether that estimate includes all the accommodation also? That is what I want to know, whether the original estimate contains all these or only for the block of the main building.

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Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes, it must come in the estimate. Everything must come.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is only for the main building estimate has been provided for.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—And no accommodation for tiffin-room or music-shed?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—They were not estimated.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—So they were not in the estimate?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—To continue, what I was saying was how from the main building you have got a balance.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That is a matter of accounting.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—It is a matter of principle. Balances unspent out of amounts ear-marked for Government works are not treated as balances for the next year. They become bank balances and treasury balances.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That balance is also at our disposal.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The Finance Member in his budget speech said that the revenues of the State and the expenditure should be so used as to give as much service to the public as possible. There is a big fallacy in the statement just made by the Secretary to the Diwan. Suppose you make 10 lakhs of rupees in one year. You estimate to spend 9 lakhs. You take the sanction of the Legislative Council. Since there is ample revenue, the sanction is given. Suppose you spend only 7 lakhs out of it and the unspent 2 lakhs is quietly put in the treasury while this work budgetted for is not fully executed. What is the effect? The next year you come with a demand for the same amount, instead of utilising that balance which has already been ear-marked for the identical head of public expenditure.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—I do not understand your point.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I will make it clear.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—You have control only over the receipts and expenditure. You have no power over the amount in the treasury.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—This budget is for the income of this year.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Including the balance.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Are we allowed to speak anything about the treasury and bank balances? No. You have only introduced the interest item on that capital invested and our vote would be useless as regards the principal.

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Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Suppose the income is 9 lakhs. And if the estimated expenditure comes to 10 lakhs, one lakh must come from the capital. It is left to the Government to see whether it is necessary or not.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I shall take the case of this particular building. You estimate one lakh for the building. You completed that building with Rs. 80,000. Very laudable thing that. What do you do with the balance? Your answer is it has gone into the general coffers of the Government. That is not the way it should go. My answer is that it should not go back when once the sanction has been obtained from the Council for a particular expenditure and the work remains uncompleted. Before the whole of that amount is spent, you should not come and ask this House for further funds for this purpose, especially when there are many other things to be done with revenue. I can understand that all the needs of every part of the State could not be satisfied at once.. But why not try and do your best? Why not you spend the unspent balance for the specific purpose for which it was set apart? Spend it first rather than come and ask for money from the current year's revenues which can be utilised for current public purposes. I believe I have made it clear.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I should like the Member to clear the point. It is said that this amount of Rs. 20,000 is what you have saved. Does it remain as balance of this year's budget or as arrears of last year's budget?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—It ought to have been brought over into this year's budget.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—On the 31st of this month the budget of the year is closed.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That red-tape rule should go. Is that a law or mandate of a sovereign power or mere red-tape?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is a pure right of the Government. We take accounts according to that.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.— It is red-tape.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is a pure technical account.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Red-tape.

If the thing is properly done, it can be done in this year's budget itself. The question is whether this balance of Rs. 20,000 is included in this year's budget as balance carried over from last year?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Where are you putting in that Rs. 20,000?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—For the time being in the

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treasury and then it will come in the budget as treasury balance.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—By a piece of red-tape, you cannot take away the objection in principle.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I want to put a few questions on these things. Kindly answer me. What was the original estimate for the Girls' High School, Ernakulam? How much money have you spent out of it? If there is any balance, how much? Let me get that answer first. Then I will be putting one or two questions more.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The estimate for the Girls' High School is for the big building alone.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it mentioned there for the whole institution?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—What is the estimate for all the buildings necessary for that institution?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—For the two buildings the estimate was Rs. 61,000 and odd, plus Rs. 16,000 and odd which gives a total of Rs. 77,237 and the real expenditure is Rs. 74,699 and odd; this is for the completion of the building as far as it is done. A very small amount remains to be paid.

Dr. A. R. Menon —Is that for the site alone?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is for the buildings and the site.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was any other amount spent for any additional building?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Is that amount exclusive of the music hall?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes. That was for the buildings only.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Whether there was an estimate for the whole of the buildings necessary for the Girls' School?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—No.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—There are certain buildings, which, you must know, are necessary for a Girls' School. I expected that the Chief Engineer and the Government did consider all these items, and gave a lump sum. That is the intelligent way of looking at a thing.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I have no record to show that it was done. Some Hon'ble Member said that something like a lakh was estimated. That was what I heard here just now.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I ask whether it will come to a lakh.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Last year you spent about Rs. 10,000 for a dancing or music hall or some such thing. Was there any remaining portion out of that?

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is there any unspent portion in the last year's estimate for the music hall?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—May I reply to the Hon'ble Member for Trippunittura, Sir? What I would like to say is—you say that the estimated revenue, if not fully spent during that particular year, any balance should be brought over to the next year as a balance. In the Finance Committee's report you find it said that, if you cannot take up a work within one year, then you should spend the amount in a number of years, say 10 years. That is what the Finance Committee has recommended. The Finance Committee has further advised the Public Works Department that it should budget only for 10 lakhs every year, and this year we have budgetted for 14 lakhs, that is, 4 lakhs in excess. This excess should come out of the surplus.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That is no answer to my question.

May I explain? This 10 lakhs, the Finance Committee says, is the normal Public Works Department expenditure, and, if you budget more, say 14 lakhs, then this excess of four lakhs should come somehow or other from the surplus, and it should be spread over for a number of years.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—My question is why did not the Government acquire sufficient land necessary for the additional buildings to be attached to the Girls' School. What I understood from the statement of the Hon'ble Member for Education is that this 60 cents of land was purchased only lately.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is about to be purchased only.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—When are you going to purchase it, may I know?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Next year.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You are going to purchase land out of this allotment of Rs. 10,000. May I ask why this question was not taken into consideration at the time the site was put up? You know you want more than one and a half acres of land for constructing a huge Girls' High School and the additional necessary buildings. Government comes here for grants piecemeal. You asked for Rs. 70,000 and odd in the first instance; then in the next year for Rs. 10,000 for a music hall; then this year you come for Rs. 10,000 for tiffin-shed, latrines, etc. I ask will you not stop, please, with this, and whether you have finished with the Girls' School business.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I think we are to look upon a school as a big family. Will the Hon'ble Member say, so

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far as his family is concerned, whether he can define the budge, I mean, draw up a definite budget, when the population of his family is increasing? Here also the population is increasing. With the increase of population, different needs are brought to the notice of the Government.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We can say. We can draw up a definite budget, particularly when we take into consideration the construction of the *Tarwad* house. Then we will provide not in a piece-meal manner. We will consider all the necessities at the very beginning, and then only begin the work.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The unspent portion of Rs. 10,000 is provided for the music hall.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The question is whether your money is safe.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The estimated amount is Rs. 9,350 and the expenditure is Rs. 9,202. There is a saving of Rs. 148, and the same has gone to the surplus.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Just on a point of information. May I know whether you have a tiffin-shed to the Lower Secondary School, Ernakulam, which was recently built?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We are only thinking of it.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is there a tiffin-shed for the College?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, any number.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—One word of precaution. I wish to emphasise the principle that has been adverted to by my Hon'ble friend, the Member tor Trippunittura. We find, as a matter of fact, amounts are allotted for a particular year, and most of the amounts are unspent in that particular year. Now, to emphasise this nature of the budget I had put in a few questions for information on the point, which would have been very very useful for the discussion of this matter before the House. My questions were, 'what were the amounts allotted for each of the years 1100, 1101, 1102 and 1103 (11 months) and which was not spent during this period?' This would have clearly shown the large amounts that were allotted, but, as a matter of fact, unspent in the particular years.

What is the effect of that—of making such an allotment and not spending the amount during that period? Of course, with the permission of the House, I say it is nothing but hoodwinking the public indeed. When we find as a matter of fact large amounts are allotted, certainly more urgent needs, perhaps, are relegated to the next year, simply on consideration that the Government is not able to supply the funds, thinking that the

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allotted amounts are absolutely necessary. But when, as a matter of fact, we find that these amounts are not spent, what is the meaning of showing these amounts as proposed to be spent and not spending? Of course, I know the Finance Member will turn round and say "These allotments, these budget figures are nothing but mere anticipations". He says so in his speech. I say they are anticipations. But I shall qualify the word 'anticipations' by another word not 'mere' but they ought to be 'intelligent anticipations'. If, as a matter of fact, they were carefully examined and budgetted upon, I don't see the reason why it should not have been spent, unless quite unforeseen accidents occur, and there would not have been the necessity for accumulating these surpluses. Now the Finance Member's budgets are primarily intended for the current expenditure and for current income. And now when we allotted an amount, that has not been spent, how does it stand? You treat it as surplus, windfalls in some sense. How do you account or rather justify your action in accumulating or adding over to the surplus? Why not you take them over? Anyhow, the Government wanted to spend that money. People accepted the demand of the Government. If it is not spent, why don't you spend it for the next year at least? You don't try to do so. I shall say how you don't try to do. Take for instance the case of the Poor House at Ernakulam. The amount of Rs. 5,000, if I remember correctly, was budgetted for 1103. How much of that amount was spent up-to-date? If my information is correct, not even one-fourth of the amount has been spent. Why not you carry it for the next year, and show we have got so much to spend? Now, your allotments for the previous year stood in the way of peoples demanding other necessities last year. Therefore, if you have not spent that money, why not you say, come before the public and frankly and openly say, we have not spent that money, we have so much more, this we expect for the current year. In other words, we have an additional source of revenue, of course, you may put it as revenue. Anyhow there is a large amount that is available. Come and propose your needs inasmuch as we shall come half-way and meet your demands. It is on this principle that I object to this alloting of large amounts and not spending it and at the time not giving the benefit of the saving to the public, for the next year.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—When we spend only Rs.1,250 out of Rs. 5,000, we want the balance of Rs. 3,750 next year and we come to you for allotment. That comes to the same thing.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The Hon'ble Member does

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not catch the point. You come and ask more out of the current income this year.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—We have also cash balance.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—You are asking also out of current income.

President.—You are going beyond the point. This ought to have come during the general budget discussion.

Motion No. 20.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "217 Tiffin Room construction, etc.," by Rs. 9,000.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There is a motion standing in my name not to omit the whole of Rs. 10,000 but to omit Rs. 9,000, thereby leaving Rs. 1,000 for the construction of the tiffin-shed of the Ernakulam Girls' School. From the budget figures, you will find large amounts have been spent on this Girls' School. In 1102 Rs. 16,237 was spent for land acquisition and Rs. 30,000 for buildings. In 1103, Rs. 41,000 was allotted for buildings. In addition to that the Government certified Rs. 10,000 for the music hall, otherwise called the 'dancing hall' by the present Member for Trichur. The total expenditure comes to Rs. 97,237. Not being satisfied with all that, they still come for another Rs. 10,000. I think this is too much to spend on a Girls' School. This Girls' School seems to be the monument of architectural beauty. The attractive part of this beauty seems to be her back (*hear, hear; loud laughter*). Yes. It is bare truth. If you pass through the road, you will find that she turns her back to you although it is the front that is exposed to the public elsewhere.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—She does not like to look at the public.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It may be she is so ugly or she is shy. For the information of this House I may say that the boys of the Chalakkudi High school are to have a tiffin-shed this year. The cost of the tiffin-shed of the boys of Chalakkudi is only very meagre.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—May I know what the amount is?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It is only Rs. 500.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I had made it clear that, out of this Rs. 10,000, Rs. 6,000 goes for site, and then you have got such a large number of divisions. What is the meaning of saying that the whole amount is for the tiffin-shed?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I ask how much land you really require for your latrines, and how much for your recreation ground?

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The extent of the land that we are going to acquire is merely what is absolutely necessary—what is required for the size of such a school. There is hardly any school of that size that has not got about 2 acres of land. We should not grudge to give that amount—a background of 60 cents for a big school of that kind.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Too much.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I should think it is not enough. We have got another school at Chittur where the Director prescribes three acres.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It is in the air. It has not taken definite shape.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It has taken definite shape so far as this Department is concerned. It is with the Chief Engineer.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That may go on for years and years together.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The site has been selected and reported to the Government.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Not a single pie has been budgetted at least for the acquisition.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The selection of the site has been made, only very recently.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—About four months ago, Sir.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The selection was over only after the budget was prepared.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The extent has to be consistent with the land value also. The land value is very high.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The extent must be sufficient for the requirements. I mean you cannot say that you will vote for Ernakulam only as much as you give for Chittur. There is difference in value between Ernakulam and Chittur. There is only the bare minimum of expenditure required for a school of 600 girls.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—On a point of information. May I know what this music hall is? Is it a place where the girls can take their tiffin?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I may explain, Sir, this aspect of the matter. When you designate it as a dancing hall, I see that the Members of the House don't treat this matter with seriousness. It is not a dancing hall. I may tell you in the first place, it is a large music room. It is a place for physical exercises. As a large number of students have to be accommodated, we want spacious buildings.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—And some theatrical performances, anniversary meetings are also held there.

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Nevertheless it is ungracious to call these buildings dancing halls or dancing rooms.

Mrs. G. Pavitran.—Sir, I wish to say a few words about the absolute necessity of the tiffin-shed for the Girls' High School at Ernakulam. Since the motion before the House affects an institution to which I have been so closely connected for the last six years, I wish to place before the Members certain facts which I know from my own experience. It is perhaps the imposing structure of the building that makes the Members think that much money is being lavished on it without necessity. If they think so, I take it only as a compliment to the Chief Engineer who planned the building and made it look so beautiful. The necessity for the amount budgetted for will be clear to the Members if only they would step in and just have a look round the building. It may perhaps surprise some of you when I tell you that in this school the number of class-rooms and their size are just sufficient for its needs. I may remind the Members that the school has to house over 650 girls besides providing accommodation for a well-equipped laboratory and a music class and other classes for specialists. I do not think it is necessary for me to say that it is in many ways the premier institution for girls in the State. Situated as it is in the capital of the State, it is only proper that the building should have an architectural beauty. It is a growing institution, and every year new activities are introduced. At present, facilities are given in the school for the study of Hindi, fine arts and for the revival of old folk dance, *kaikottikali*.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is there not a dancing hall ?

Mrs. G. Pavitran.—Yes, of course, for the revival of *kaikottikali*, which none of the Members here will have reason to denounce.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Certainly not.

Mrs. G. Pavitran.—There is a class for advanced course of needle-work, and arrangements are being made for the advanced teaching of music. Admission to all these classes is open to college students and to the ladies of the locality. It is the object of the authorities of the institution to make this the centre for all activities among the women of the place, and this aim is being realised to a very great extent. I have perhaps spoken too long about the importance of this institution. But my object in so doing is only to impress on the minds of the Members of the necessity for providing the school with all conveniences for carrying on these useful activities. To come to the actual subject of the motion, I may add that the amount allotted is required for the acquisition of a strip of land to the

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east of the building, to build a compound wall and to put up a latrine, a tiffin-shed, a cookery class and masapady's quarters. The space to the west of the building can only be used for a decent school garden, and the space in the quadrangle is used for a badminton court and tennis court. All available space is thus occupied. The latrine, as at present situated, is too small and also too near the building, so that the building of a new and permanent latrine is an absolute necessity. As for the tiffin-shed, it is no less a necessity, for the lack of it at present leads to the soiling of the floors of class-rooms. I hope there will be none here to dispute the need of a cookery class for an institution for girls. I hope I have made it clear that the acquisition of the land and the putting of these sheds are an absolute necessity. Considering the price of land at Ernakulam, which is rising every day, I think it is wise to acquire it as early as possible.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—My point is whether girls could not take tiffin during interval time in this music hall which ought to be a spacious thing. That is all my point.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is marsh, swampy ground, which ought to be made level for the sake of the health of the large number of girls. That point the Member for Education did not bring to your notice. I have gone there, and I have seen it myself in the capacity of a health officer, and I am of opinion that it must be acquired as early as possible for the health of the girls.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Does this amount include the construction of the hall also?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The Medical Officer says that it is a bad locality after the building was constructed. It would have been more useful if he had advised the Government of a suitable site for the construction of a Girls' School.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—That is no argument at all. It is mere waste of time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I propose that the question may now be put.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I second it.

(*The motion was agreed to by the House.*)

(*The cut motion was then withdrawn with leave.*)

Motion No. 19 A.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "the acquisition of site, etc., for Girls' High School, Ernakulam".*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I shall make my motion separately.

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It is not a cut motion but only a token motion, to reduce the allotment by Re. 1.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000. That is what is given here.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I sent it as a token motion just to discuss about certain matters. I shall move. I have tabled this token motion to inform the Government that they are not justified in allotting such a large amount for the tiffin-shed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—May I correct the Member, Sir? The motion, as tabled, is as I said before.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—May I take it as a token motion, Sir?

President.—Yes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In the last budget, Rs. 10,500 was demanded for a music hall.

I have tabled this token motion to inform the Government that they are not justified in budgetting this big amount and what this House thinks of such expenditure.

The Girls' High School at Ernakulam has cost us more than Rs. 85,000 already. In the last budget Rs. 10,500 was demanded for a music hall. The Council rightly negatived the demand, but it was certified by the Diwan.

This year the Government wants, I say, a modest sum of Rs. 10,000. And for what? For a tiffin-shed. In this connection may I draw the attention of the House that, when questioned about the construction of a High School for girls at Chittur, the Member for Education stated "For want of funds it has to be postponed for the next year"? Yet a sum of Rs. 10,000 is available for a tiffin-shed at Ernakulam. My taluk is the 'Cinderella' of the State. Further comment is needless. May I ask you, Sir, who made the original estimate for the school? Why were these necessary items omitted from the original estimate? Should not the essential buildings be included in the original estimate? Is our P. W. D. incapable of preparing a proper building estimate? Now, does it not strike one that such piecemeal demands are dodges to defeat the House. Perhaps the Government might have thought that, if it was known to the House even in the beginning that such monstrously big amount is necessary, then they might veto the whole concern and request the Government to bring forward more modest demands. (*Hear, hear.*) Now they could argue sanctioned money has been spent on the buildings, and this *essential* need has to be satisfied.

I can only point out that this is official cleverness with a vengeance. Next year we do not know what would be the item.

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The prestige of the Government is not to be judged by the fabulous amounts spent on educational buildings, but should be judged only by the advancement of education itself.

I would, therefore, request the House to pass this motion as a protest against the ways of the Government on such matters.

President.—Does Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar press for a division?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—No.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I want a division. It is only a token motion. I press for a division on principle. We protest against the ways of the Government.

Question put:— "*To reduce by Re. 1 the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of a tiffin-shed*".

Question put and negatived.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—A poll, Sir.

The House divided: Ayes. 15, Noes. 22.

Ayes.

1.	Mr. I. E. Ambooken	8.	Mr. A. K. Kunju Moideen
2.	„ V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar	9.	„ C. A. Kuujunni Raja
3.	„ A. L. Antony	10.	„ Ouseph P. Kundukulam
4.	„ K. Ayyppan	11.	„ V. D. Ouseph
5.	„ A. Eachara Menon	12.	„ T. Krishnan Nayar
6.	Dr. A. G. Menon	13.	„ T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar
7.	Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar	14.	Dr. A. R. Menon
		15.	Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi

Noes.

1.	Mr. K. J. Antony.	11.	Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai
2	„ C. Barton Wright	12.	Mrs. G. Pavitran
3.	„ M. A. Chakko	13.	Mr. I. Raman Menon
4.	„ P. C. Chanchan	14.	„ K. Ramunni Menon
5.	„ Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar	15.	„ A. Sankara Menon
6.	„ V. K. Kochunni Menon	16.	„ Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur
7.	„ P. Krishna Menon	17.	„ Thomas Manjuran
8.	„ T. K. Krishna Menon	18.	„ V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar
9.	„ K. Krishna Pisharodi	19.	Dr. E. A. Veigas
10.	„ Rao Bahadur John Kuriyan	20.	Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar
		21.	Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese
		22.	President

Motions Nos. 21—23.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 770 for "improving existing shed at ferry jetty at Ernakulam."*

Mr. Thomas Manjuran. — *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,60,437 for "original works" by Rs. 20,000.*

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Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,60,437 for "original works" by Rs. 10,000.*

President.—Motion No. 21, Mr. Salem is absent.

(*Hence the motion was deemed withdrawn.*)

President.—Motion No. 22, Mr. Thomas Manjuran.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I brought this motion with an intention of moving for a substantial cut, but seeing that Rs. 20,000 has already been cut yesterday, I don't propose to press it as a motion for a substantial cut. I want, however, to bring to the notice of the Government that substantial allotments for original building work are being regularly made, and repairs to the existing lines of communications and the making more and more new lines of communication is being neglected. The Government should see that the needs of the rural areas are also well considered. I wanted to say something in connection with an irrigation scheme, and I am very glad to find that reference was made by the Chief Engineer that that project was being seriously considered. I want to bring to the Government's notice, in this connection, two other matters, rather unimportant in themselves but considerably irritating to the public that use our roads and other public amenities. We have got all along our roads what may be characterised as motor trap cross drains. I happened to go, recently, from one end of the State to the other in Travancore—from Parur to Cape Comorin and from Kottayam right up to Periyar. These drains are conspicuous by their absence on those Travancore roads. The Member for Public Works will kindly note that. Another thing is the miserable condition of the landing place at the Cochin Ferry.

I would request the Hon'ble Member for Public Works to kindly take a trip to Cochin. You have got a decent jetty, and as soon as you land out of the jetty you are in a marsh. I am sorry the Member for Mattancheri is not here. We have no doubt got a decent building put up at the Ernakulam end, but it is not open to the public. That may kindly be opened as early as possible and a similar building put up in Cochin.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It has already been opened.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The doors are open. But is there any furniture there? It is now used by some beggars; it is also open to the cattle. I am not very keen about having a very large building at Cochin. Quite a modest one will do. And at any rate let us have the marsh reclaimed. You have to walk gingerly as soon as you get out of the jetty; otherwise you are sure to sink into the mire. That is very deplorable. I am tempted to hope that rats would start dying there. Probably that might spur the Government to quick action. I certainly

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am not moving a substantial cut or even a token motion for this. The House has already expressed its opinion on cognate matters and I withdraw.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 23.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,60,437 for "original works" by Rs. 10,000.*

President.—Then motion No. 23, Mr. Mathew.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

Motion No. 24.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To omit the amount of Rs. 5,000 for "item 275, Irrigation Investigation."*

President.—Motion No. 24, Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The object of this motion is to emphasise the fact that the result of all investigations should be placed before this House. In one of the speeches of the permanent Diwan during the last session, he said, "I will now count a dozen schemes, schemes on which the former Diwans spent much time and labour and attention. Those schemes are ready at hand. The present Diwan has not to seek for schemes anywhere else or to shut himself up in his study and work out schemes. He has only to take them up one by one and to give effect to them". If such is the case, I want to know why more money is to be spent on new investigations. It is unnecessary to investigate, investigate and investigate. The results of the investigation do not see the light of day. So I object to any more money being spent on such investigations.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—On a point of information, Sir. I should like to know from the Chief Engineer what has become of the 'Pothundi Project' in Nemmara.

President.—It was explained yesterday.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—I would like to have some information about that. I want to know the estimated approximate amount for the scheme.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The approximate amount will be 9½ lakhs or so.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I rise to support the motion and speak a few words about *Kole* lands. Before that, may I know from the Chief Engineer whether in the Tanikkudam Scheme water can be diverted for the use of *Kole* lands?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—You ask about the possibility—the physical possibility? It can be done.

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Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—May I know how much capital will be required for the Tanikkudam Scheme?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—There are two estimates made, one for a small reservoir and another for a larger reservoir. One will cost about 3 or 4 lakhs and the other about 11 lakhs.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—May I know what will be the approximate water cess for the irrigation of an acre of *Kole* land?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—As much as we can get out of you. (*Laughter.*) I should like to place the figures before you. It is Rs. 6. That is what the Chief Engineer thought could be got from you. I would like to know whether you can pay that. If you cannot pay that, please tell us how much you will pay.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I will speak a few words about *Kole* lands. The other day I brought home to you our pressing need for water for *Kole* cultivation. It was then replied very calmly by the Hon'ble Member for Public Works that by the introduction of the store system our demand has been satisfied. I say the water store system has completely failed, and it has the effect only of a drop of water into the parched lips of a dying man. As has been pointed out already, the success of the crop, if any, was not at all due to the water store system, but by getting the timely monsoon and rainfall. I believe it was Sir A. R. Banerjee, who said that, in all Southern India, Cochin is so fertile and favoured that it can be converted like the valley of the Nile. But seeing the budget estimate, I was very sad to observe not a pie is allotted by the Government for the development of *Kole* cultivation in spite of repeated complaints from our parts. I suppose that *Kole* land nearly covers 2,000 acres in extent, and the average yield will be 15 fold. Consider the immense possibility!

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I say it is nearly 20,000 acres and not 2,000.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Well, I made a mistake. Now the average yield will be 15 fold, and if the monsoon favours early enough, one can naturally guess what amount of paddy can be brought forth from these *Kole* lands. At present the system of erecting bunds on all sides of several blocks of *Kole* lands is followed, and as soon as the cultivation is over, the channels that form like our arteries and our veins silt up, and there will be no water available in all these channels, and as soon as these crops begin to shoot forth their feathery green ears, the channel will be dried up, and there is no possibility of getting water from any source. Permit me to say in this connection that the

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income derived from my constituency not only from the *Kole* lands but from cocoanut gardens full of cocoanut trees waving their palms triumphantly is beyond any proportion to that of any of the other constituencies. I can say that in spite of all this not a pie is spent by the Government for irrigation purpose in our own constituency. Complaints after complaints have been launched to Government, and our Government have been steadily following a policy of callousness. A committee was appointed in 1096 ; I cannot say whether the Government have taken any action on the suggestions made in their report. It has been pending, and even in this budget not a pie is allotted for irrigation purposes in *Kole* lands when the Government is prepared to spend nearly a lakh of rupees for a Girls' School. Consider the callous indifference shown by the Government to devote a single pie to erect a bund in an area extending to nearly 20,000 acres. I say that heavy responsibility lies with the Government to answer our demands—demands which are legitimate and urgent—and the Government have hitherto shirked their responsibility seeing that it will require a large capital as investment. The Finance Member, in the last budget speech, I believe, has clearly said that the cry everywhere is irrigation, irrigation, yet more irrigation. Yes, we cry and cry till it is heard, and I will cry still louder, and if you don't develop the natural resources of the land, if you do nothing for the main-stay of the population, their staple food, we will cry louder till it is heard. I appeal to the Government this aspect of the question may be considered; the sooner, the better. We are crying for rice and not for luxury.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ് കണ്ടുകുളം.—കൃഷിക്ക് വെള്ളം കിട്ടേണ്ട ആവശ്യത്തിലേക്കായി വളരെ പണം ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്ന എന്നുള്ള ഒരു ആക്ഷേപം ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ൬൦,൦൦൦ ഏക്കറോളം സ്ഥലത്തു് കോൾകൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നവരും നിലനരും ആയവരുടെ കൃഷിപിഴച്ചു് —അതു് ഒരുകൊല്ലമല്ലാ എല്ലാകൊല്ലവും—പോകുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി വല്ലതും അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നാണു് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്. അവർ പണം കടംവാങ്ങി കൃഷിയിറക്കി കൃഷി നശിച്ചു് വളരെ കടക്കാരായി തീരുന്നതിനു് ഇടവരുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെ കൃഷി പലപ്പോഴും നശിക്കുവാനിടയായിട്ടും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് അതിന്റെ പരിഹാരത്തിനു് വല്ലതും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ? പക്ഷെ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ലെന്നില്ല. കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ൬൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കി അവിടവിടെയായി വെള്ളം കയറാനിരുന്നു എന്നത വാസ്തവംതന്നെ. അതിനാൽ അവിടത്തെ കൃഷിപ്പിഴക്കു് ഒരു മാതിരി ആശ്വാസം കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നതിനെ സമ്മതിക്കാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവൃ

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ത്തിയില്ല. നിലങ്ങളിൽ ഉണക്കു് അധികം പറമ്പുകളിൽ വെള്ളം കെട്ടുന്നതിനായും വെള്ളക്കയറ്റത്താൽ ദോഷം സംഭവിക്കുന്ന നിലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു് അവയെ വാരിച്ചുകളയുന്നതിനുംവേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടു് ഉടനടി ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു്. മുള്ളർ കായലിന്റെവടക്കെ അറ്റത്തു് വെള്ളം തേഖരിക്കാൻ സ്റ്റോർസിസ്റ്റം ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്യുന്നും വിസ്തരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ആ സമയത്തു് ദൈവാധീനത്താ മഴയും ഉണ്ടായി. ആ മഴയാണു് വാസ്തവത്തിൽ കൃഷിക്കു് ഗുണമുണ്ടാക്കിയതെങ്കിലും ആ ജലശേഖരമാണു് കൃഷിയെ രക്ഷിച്ചതെന്നു് പറഞ്ഞുപരത്തുവാൻ സാധിച്ചു. അല്ലാതെ ആ വെള്ളംകൊണ്ടു് അവിടത്തെ കൃഷിപ്പിഴയെ തീർക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമായിരുന്നില്ല. വലിയ ജലാശയങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും വെള്ളം വരുത്തി വിതരണംചെയ്യുന്നതിനുമിങ്ങുമായി ചിലമൂലകളിൽ ചിലവാക്കുന്ന ഇരുപതിനായിരം കൊണ്ടു് അങ്ങനെയൊന്നും ഗുണമുണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ ധൈര്യമായി പ്രസ്താവിക്കാം. കോൾകൃഷിയിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ പലവിധ നഷ്ടങ്ങളും ക്ലേശങ്ങളും അനുഭവിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. ഇപ്പോൾ തെങ്ങുകൃഷിയാടൻ കൃഷി പരീക്ഷിച്ചു് നോക്കുകയാണു്. പ്രജകൾഇങ്ങനെയൊക്കെ ചെയ്യുന്നതായി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് അറിയുന്നുണ്ടോ? പത്തുപതിനായിരം ഏക്കർ നിലം വെള്ളം കയറി ഒക്കെ നശിച്ചുപോയി. ഇതിൽ പ്രജകൾക്കു് എന്തെല്ലാം നഷ്ടവും കഷ്ടതയും ആണുള്ളതെന്നു് നമ്മുടെ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് വിചാരിക്കുന്നതുപോലുമില്ല. ൨൦,൦൦൦ ഏക്കർ ഭൂമി കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്ന ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തെപ്പറ്റിയാണു് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതെന്നു് നല്ലവണ്ണം ഓർക്കണം. കൊച്ചിയിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് മറ്റെന്തെല്ലാംതരം സുഖങ്ങളുണ്ടായിരുന്നാലും മനുഷ്യർക്കു് ജീവിക്കുന്നതിൻ ആധാരമായ ഭക്ഷണസാധനത്തിനായുള്ള നെൽകൃഷിയുടെ രക്ഷക്കായി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടുചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതെന്തെന്നാണു് വീണ്ടും ഞാൻ ബലമായി ചോദിക്കുന്നതു. ൨൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലം ഓരോ മൂലകളിൽ കൊണ്ടുപോയി ചിലവാക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ആമ്പല്ലൂർവെള്ളം കെട്ടിനിർത്താൻ ആലോചന ഉണ്ടെന്നു് പറയുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ആമ്പല്ലൂക്കാർക്കു് ഗുണമുണ്ടായി എന്നുവന്നേക്കാം. രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ മറുഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ കൃഷിനാശംകൊണ്ടു് ദാരിദ്ര്യവും സങ്കടവും അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് എന്തുഗുണമാണുള്ളതു്? കോൾകൃഷിക്കായി എന്തുചെയ്യാനൊരുങ്ങുന്നു? ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തിൽ വല്ലതുകയും അതിലേക്കു ബഡ്ജറ്റുചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ? നികുതിവകയിൽ ആയിരക്കണക്കിനു് രൂപാ കൊടുക്കുന്ന കോൾകൃഷിക്കു് ഒരു തുകപോലും ചിലവാക്കാതെ ഇറിഗേഷൻ ചിലവു് അധികമായിപ്പോയി അധികമായിപ്പോയി എന്നു് നിലവിളിക്കുന്നതിൽ എന്തു് അർത്ഥമാണുള്ളതു്? അതുകൊണ്ടു് പതിനായിരം ഏക്കർ നിലം ആയിരക്കണക്കിനു രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കി നശിച്ചുപോയ പാവങ്ങളുടെ നേരെ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു് അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ വിരമിക്കുന്നു.

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Mr. A. L. Antony.—What about the Manali-Kurumali project?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The investigation is not complete.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—How many more years will it take?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—A few months.

I cannot understand the motion at all. At any rate, I can understand the mover, but I cannot understand the Members who spoke before me. What Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar said was that this investigation has been going on for a long time, and why should we want more time. That I can understand, and I shall reply to it. But another Member was saying that we are not doing enough for *Kole* lands. But *Kole* land proprietors do not support him. They think we are going on right lines. He says don't investigate any more; really we want more of investigation. About the state of *Kole* lands, as far as I know, the recommendations of the *Kole* Committee are being carried out. I saw some of the largest *Kole* owners, and they were satisfied that we are on the right track. I do not say we have done everything. The Enamakkal Bund cost us over a lakh of rupees, and the bund serves its purpose more than it ever did, and we hope to make some more improvements upon it. But it is difficult to say exactly what is further wanted, that is the thing. It is easy to say go on with irrigation, but when it comes to details, no one knows what is wanted or what should be done. For example, Mr. Lona, one of the most prominent *Kole*-owners, who is very much older than the Member, was consulted. I said "suppose I put screw shutters so that I can easily let out water when not wanted or retain the water when wanted." Mr. Lona hesitated. He could not say for certain if such shutters would be desirable. I am thinking over it. I want to know exactly in what way they will work. That is the difficulty.

Coming back to Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar, out of the 5,000 rupees that I ask for under this item to which he has objected, I think Rs. 275 is the balance of the Rs. 16,000 which was sanctioned and which is now being spent. This is for the pay of the staff, an Assistant Engineer, a number of surveyors and lascars, costing about a thousand rupees a month. The investigation will go on, and by the end of this year, about Rs. 10,000 will be spent mostly as pay and so on. The balance required is budgetted for the next year. Do you want me to stop that investigation now and disband all the staff by the 31st of Karkadagam? Is that what you mean?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I suppose this scheme has been investigated by the previous Engineers.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Not one of them to

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the stage at which we may engage a contractor and go on with the work.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—In the matter of the Chittur Irrigation Scheme the estimates also had been prepared. A Special Engineer was appointed and an estimate was got ready.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes, but I do not think that anyone of these schemes are ready to be handed over to a contractor for commencing work.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—A special officer was appointed to make investigations in the Mukundapuram Taluk.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—But I cannot say with confidence that they are all complete to such an extent that Government can say 'Go on with the work'. They are not complete investigations in that sense. They have to be scrutinised again and again. Conditions have changed since the Nemmara estimate was made.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the use of multiplying schemes? How are we sure that the results of these schemes will not suffer the same fate?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I am by no means sure. The thing is the hurry was for schemes this side of the Ghats and not at Nemmara side. (*Hear, hear.*)

I shall tell you about the Thanikkudam Scheme. We have fixed a site for the dam and are trying to find out how deep the rock is, and we are running a contour line to find out where the water will stand if the dam is built, and if there will be gaps in the hills when the water is standing at full lake level through which water may escape if they are not bunded. The line is 30 or 40 miles going along the edge of the lake, and it might take another 2 or 3 months to complete the survey of the contour.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I withdraw my motion.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 25.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for "277—Appendix B, lump sum for Irrigation work."*

President.—Motion No. 25.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—In rising to move this cut, I should not be misunderstood to be opposed to the Government spending monies for irrigation purposes. I have myself, in the course of my budget speech, been very severely criticising the inaction of the Government with regard to irrigation works. But I oppose this grant for the reason that this House is not in a position to know how this amount is going to be utilised or

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where it is to be utilised and when. I take it from the nature of the demand made that at present there are no definite schemes for the Government. The whole project seems to be in its experimental or investigation stage. It is premature at this stage to say what the result of that investigation would be. In such a state of circumstances, there may even be the likelihood of this substantial amount lapsing. It is always unwise to make demands for grants which may have the chance of lapsing. This House would further like to be furnished with information as to the nature of the irrigation work that is likely to be taken up, so that the House may express its opinion in favour or against it. There is also another point to be considered and that perhaps of equal importance, *viz.*, that, if no irrigation works are likely to consume this allotment, the Department concerned may get the amount transferred to some other head, for which, according to them, no adequate amount has been sanctioned. And when we know as a matter of experience that transfers of allotments are not made after the approval of this House is obtained, we should be particular to avoid the contingency of a transfer of allotment. If, before the next session of this Council, the Head of the Department concerned finds himself ready with any of his schemes, this House will be prepared, I am sure, to allot any reasonable amount that may be necessary for the said purpose. I may add here that the policy of asking for grants of lump sums without furnishing details is always bad and should be discontinued.

Motion No. 26.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for '277—Appendix B, lump sum for Irrigation work'.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There is a motion standing in my name, *i. e.*, motion No. 26 for the same purpose. Sir, it is an irony of fate that, when I was clamouring for more money for irrigation, I have to oppose this demand of one lakh for irrigation under a lump provision. My objection is the same, as has been pointed out by the Member for Vellarappalli, that on principle it is not at all safe to make such large allotments of lakhs of rupees without knowing the details of the allotments. When I moved a resolution in the last Council that for transfers of allotments the Government ought to come to the Council, the Government opposed the resolution tooth and nail, and in the end they agreed that at least all the Account Books which will reveal the transfers of allotments will be placed every day on the Table of this House. Contrary to that assurance, I do not find on the Table those books to-day. Even if I wanted a reference, it is not possible to verify whether you have made any

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transfer of allotments without those books on the Table. Can anybody be sure what all transfers will be made out of this lakh? Under these circumstances, this allotment cannot at all be made. In the Madras Legislative Council there is a Committee on Public Accounts. Rule 33 of the Legislative Council Rules of the Madras Legislative Council runs thus:—"As soon as may be after the commencement of each Financial Year, a Committee on Public Accounts shall be constituted for the purpose of dealing with *the Audit* and *Appropriation Accounts* of the Province, and such other matters as the Finance Department may refer to the Committee". So that Committee is able to control the appropriation, and they can also audit, if necessary, the accounts. Here there is no such committee, and as such it is unfair to make such large allotments without knowing any details of the expenditure.

Motion No. 27.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for "277 Appendix—B, lump sum for irrigation work."*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— I endorse every word of what the mover of the cut motion and my Hon'ble friend, the Member for the Jenmi, said. My object in tabling this cut is that this big grant should not be spent in whatever way they like. It should be set apart for definite schemes and should not lapse. And it should not be transferred to other allotments. That is what I wish to bring to the notice of the Government.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.— On a point of information, may I ask the Chief Engineer to give us a rough idea of how he is going to spend this one lakh of rupees? I find we want some reasons, some rough idea. You stated very many things the other day.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.— He has got one scheme ready, and the particular estimates are ready. You have a particular scheme and approximately 18 Rs. may be spent.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I can assure the House that not a single pie of the money will be wasted.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.— That we know. It will go to the pockets of somebody.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.— About approximate estimates, it is very difficult to say. First, I am only just studying these things, and I am not here to carry on these. Some three schemes are almost ready, *viz.*, Manalur Scheme, costing nearly Rs. 18,000 and that depends upon Travancore agreeing to our scheme. If only Travancore agrees to it, we will undertake that. Out of the works intended to be done out the Rs. 1,00,000, I think Manali is the most promising one.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The whole river is to be diverted ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—We leave a little for you.

Mr. E. Ekkanda Warriar.—Please give us a right idea between which point and which point the river is to be diverted.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Not less than 1,000 and not greater than 2,000 cusex.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—We do not quite follow. One cusex, what is the exact measure ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—One cusex means one cubic foot of running water per second. People are not so well up in irrigation. However, about 1,000 and 2,000 cusex from the Manali River.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—From where?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I cannot exactly tell you. To carry 2,000 cusex we want a much bigger scheme. To carry 1,000 cusex a little more than half.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—We expected an irrigation expert who gives us estimates on the spur of the moment.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I should like to see him.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know whether the scheme is complete ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The allotment is settled upon. Do you know the place Marathakkara ? Very close to it, it starts. Near Padavartha temple, it is very cheap. It was attempted by somebody before this. It has to be widened.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—It runs through my constituency.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Perhaps, it will cross the Ollur Town and cross the Railway line.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Where it will join the sea.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Beyond the Railway line I will not carry. It may lead to the *Kole* fields.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Have you any idea of the amount settled upon ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Not settled. No information before me.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—After getting the estimate ready, you can ask for a supplementary grant.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It will be only spent after the scheme is ready. We will keep the House constantly informed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Before you spend the

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amount, can the Government tell us what particular scheme is to be undertaken and get the opinion of the Members of this House ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.— There is not the slightest objection for that.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.— I am afraid I must say that before the work is started, opportunity should be given for consideration of it by this House. I daresay that great importance is attached to irrigation by all Members here, and it is out of the question to cut the amount. I would certainly request that the utmost speed will be made to see that this amount will not lapse at the end of the year and insist that irrigation works be strenuously considered and executed.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.— I will try my level best if I am the permanent Chief Engineer.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.— The information is scanty.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.— That we admit.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.— Without further explanation this allotment cannot be granted.

Mr. C. V Kuriyan.— Sir, I know that, as a matter of fact, not a pie is being wasted. I had consulted the Departmental Head, and I know the work is progressing. Now I only request that irrigation projects should be one of the foremost consideration in the preparation of the budget. Till now we were considering this item as one of very minor imporatnce, and now we have begun to feel it is one of the vital parts of the estimates we get every year. I will also make a further request, that the Department will take adequate measures immediately to complete the works which they are handling and also to be earnest about the matter. It would not do to give a mere promise and sit quiet as the Government did till now. The Government will take this matter seriously and very earnestly. That is my request, and it is the request of a million people.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—With regard to the necessity of the amount to be spent for this purpose, there is no difference of opinion in the House. It is a question upon which there is unanimity of opinion. Only the principle, we are questioning, *i. e.*, putting a lump sum like this without giving any details for the same. This thing alone has made it a Party question. We want the whole amount to be spent for irrigation. Members of this House have not been associated in the preparation of the scheme for irrigation in their respective electorates nor the Panchayat members. We have absolutely no idea of the scheme.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—In the course of my budget speech I suggested that more and more amount should be spent on irri-

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gation. Certain schemes or certain estimates which have been prepared and approved by the Government at one time are held over for want of funds. From year to year they were held up. They are not brought into this estimate. There is no want of funds, for we have here a lakh of rupees which the Government want to spend for irrigation. The position is that they do not know what works to take up because investigations are not complete. Now looking at these circumstances side by side, it would appear the Government have funds to spend, but for spending the funds they do not take up the estimates already made. The Government have estimates ready, and for these estimated works they would not spend money. And now they are not ready to take the House into confidence as to the irrigation work that they are prepared to undertake. If they would have stated for what purpose this one lakh of rupees was intended for them, the Members of this House would have been able to say which of them should be held over for the succeeding years. When Rs. 10,000 was required for the Girls' School, Ernakulam, two Members were able to object to it on the ground that they had other and more important works in the educational Department than that, and this House was able to hear the argument brought forward by the Member for Chittur and also the reply of the Educational Member to meet it, and form an opinion, and finally come to the conclusion that the amount required for the Ernakulam Girls' School must be allowed and the other should wait. Here the point now is that the one lakh of rupees, which the Government is holding, will have to go into this year's expenditure without the discrimination of the House and without taking the House into confidence. That practice is not to be continued or repeated. So we thought it would be better that this matter should be thrashed out, and the opinion of the House ascertained, whether we should allow this money or, on the risk of no irrigation at all, the money should be withheld. There is need for expenditure under irrigation. I, therefore, urge that the Government is putting us in the horns of a dilemma to say "we make provision for irrigation but you obstruct us." Because you are not going to say for what specific purpose you mean to spend it, it has come to be a Party question. According to the Party to which I belong, we want larger amounts to be spent for irrigation works. But then the Party as a Party cannot agree to the spending of the money without the House being taken into confidence. To place these matters for consideration, I took this opportunity.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.— സർ, ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് കൌൺസിൽ വഴിയായി തന്നാട്ടുള്ള അവകാശങ്ങളെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ആവശ്യമി

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ല്ലാതെ എടുത്തുകൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് സമ്മതമല്ല. ഗവ
മ്മെണ്ടിനു് പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യേണ്ട അത്യാവശ്യംവരികയാണെ
ങ്കിൽ അതു് നിർവഹിക്കുവാൻ രണ്ടു വഴികൾ വച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. സപ്ലി
മെന്ററി ഗ്രാന്റു കൊണ്ടുവരാം. ഈ ര
ണ്ടു സൌകര്യങ്ങളിരുന്നിട്ടും, ഒരു കാര്യവും ഇല്ലാതെ, ഞങ്ങളോടു
ആലോചിച്ചു ചെയ്യേണ്ടവ ഞങ്ങളുമായി ആലോചിച്ചു ചെയ്യാ
തിരിക്കുന്നതു് സമ്മതിക്കുവാൻ തരമില്ല. ആലോചിച്ചുവെന്നുപറ
യുമായിരിക്കും. ഒരു ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചിലവുചെയ്യേണമെന്നല്ലാതെ
ഇന്നവിധത്തിൽ ഇന്നവകയ്ക്കു് എന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. പിന്നെ എ
ന്തൊരു ആലോചനയാണതു? ഒരു ലക്ഷമല്ല, ഇറിഗേഷനുവേണ്ടി
രണ്ടുലക്ഷമൊ, മൂന്നുലക്ഷമൊ രൂപാ ഞങ്ങൾ അനുവദിക്കാം. ഞാ
റയ്ക്കൽ മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ആലോചിക്കുവാൻ ഞങ്ങൾ
ക്കു് സൌകര്യം തരണം. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ആ സമ്പ്രദായത്തെയാ
ണു് ഞങ്ങൾ എതിർക്കുന്നതു്. ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് എല്ലാവക്കും പറയുവാ
നുള്ളതു് അതുതന്നെ എന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്ന
തിലല്ല ഞങ്ങൾ വിരോധം പറയുന്നതു്. ഞങ്ങളെകൂടെ ആലോ
ചനയിൽ കൂട്ടുക. ഞങ്ങളോടു് ആലോചിക്കാതെ, ഒരു സംഖ്യ
ഇന്നതിനെന്നു വിവരം തിരിച്ചുപറയാതെ എടുക്കുന്നതിനു് ഗവ
മ്മെണ്ടിനു് വല്ല ന്യായവും പറയുവാനുണ്ടൊ എന്നു് അറിഞ്ഞാൽ
കൊള്ളാം.

റാവുബഹദൂർ മിസ്റ്റർ ജൊൺകുട്ടൻ.—ആലോചിക്കാതെചി
ലവുചെയ്യുകയില്ലെന്നു് ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എന്നാൽ സപ്ലിമെന്ററി ഗ്രാന്റാ
യി ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതിനൊ, സട്ടിഫൈചെയ്തു ചിലവാക്കുന്നതി
നൊ നീട്ടിവെയ്ക്കാതെ ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ വേണമെന്നു് പറയുന്നതി
നു് വല്ല അത്യാവശ്യവും ഉണ്ടൊ? കേൾക്കട്ടെ!

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ഡി. ഔസേപ്പു.—സ്റ്റേറ്റ്മെണ്ടും കൊണ്ടുവരാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—അതെ; പണം ചിലവുചെയ്തിട്ടു് ഒ
രു സ്റ്റേറ്റ്മെണ്ടു് ഹാജരാക്കിയാലും മതി. അങ്ങിനെ മൂന്നാമ
തു ഒരു വഴികൂടെ ഉണ്ടു്. എന്നാലും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ
വിവരം പറയാതെ ഇതു കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ ഒരു ആവശ്യവും ഇല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ഈച്ചരമേനോൻ.—ഇറിഗേഷനുവേണ്ടി ഗവ
മ്മെണ്ടുപണം ചിലവാക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു് ജനങ്ങൾ അറിയണം.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I can guarantee that the money will not be diverted for any other purpose than irrigation.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—You may ask for supplementary grants.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I think the whole House is in a dilemma.

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Non-official Members.—No dilemma, no dilemma.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I am glad, but only by taking that standpoint I may be able to explain to the House that I do not think it may be justifiable. Now, from the discussion we have had, it is clear that no Member of this House is against granting any amount whatever for irrigation purposes. Secondly we also find a sort of general assertion that this large amount allotted for irrigation will not be spent for anything except irrigation. Now, no doubt, it is a legitimate complaint on the part of the non-official Members, that more details may be vouchsafed to them so that they may know how they are going to spend or what part of Cochin is going to be benefitted by that. On the part of the Government it is also legitimate to say that 'we will not spend any pie for anything else than irrigation'. Therefore, if, as a matter of fact, their present circumstances are such that they cannot go more into the matter, we have to accept that at least. On the other hand, if we do not accept and turn down the grant, what is the use of turning down the grant and asking more money for irrigation? No doubt, the Government have twenty other methods of spending money and getting your consent or not getting your consent, but that is not the question. We shall see whether we cannot adjust matters, and effect a sort of compromise, and see that the wishes of both the parties are satisfied, namely, that every pie of the grant made is spent for nothing except irrigation. On that assurance why not accept this instead of cancelling it?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What is the Government assurance? Money will not be diverted without the knowledge of the House. May I know whether the opinion of the House will be taken before incurring the expenditure?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It comes to that.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—On a point of order, Sir. Two Members are standing in the House.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I am sorry that the Members are not maintaining the dignity of the House.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What did you say, Sir? Some personal reflections were made.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—No personal reflection, but a general pertinent remark was made.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Let me proceed. We will be defeating the object we have in view, that is, the progress and prospect of irrigation.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Certainly not. The question is to which irrigation project preference is to be given.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Every project is necessary.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—May or may not be.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Let me conclude. Therefore, what I say is it is no use turning down the grant and thereby depriving the Government of the opportunity of doing something at least of what they propose to do.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I shall not attempt to perform an impossible task. Though the Hon'ble Member, who spoke just now, advocated the policy of give-and-take, it is impossible to satisfy all the people in this world. The object of this motion is not so childish as he seems to think, and I hope, as his wisdom is growing, when he advances still further, that he will be able to appreciate the remark that fell in this House from the opposite benches against this lump provision. The House will bear witness to me, to your witness also, when I called its attention on a former occasion on a grant of provision, I openly asserted in this Council that it was only to show the partiality to one, in whom the Member of this Council on the official side is interested to show personal favouritism. I said that, and no one dared to deny that statement, and I proved the main object of that is to benefit a Member, and I challenge him to tell the Council who are the owners that would be benefitted by such a grant. At first there was absolute silence in the House. Then afterwards I succeeded in dragging it out. On that occasion public money was utilised to serve all those who are favourites. Now where is the guarantee that such a thing will not recur again? Therefore, having fallen once in hot water, every time we see cold water we think it may be hot and avoid. The Hon'ble Member, who has not gone through the process, once fallen, may believe the suspicion that we feel every time when a lump allotment is made in the sacred name of 'irrigation', and the land is not getting a drop of water. In this instance the Government take this matter seriously, and endeavour to take up the service of the present Engineer for a period of three years and entrust the special work of investigation and bring about comprehensive schemes for irrigation (*hear, hear*). Let us not fool ourselves, as we did fort he last four years, about irrigation. If you are not willing to help, you need not help. Keep back. It is necessary to the peasant, to the land-owners and to the people. Every time we go to our constituency, the people say 'you fool, you go to the Council and we never get water', 'you will get us nothing !' We say every time 'we will do this'. What have you done for the last four years? We have been protesting over and over again, but nothing, comes out of that. That sort of lump provision is only to adorn the budget statement, and I believe we will forego that beautiful line.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—There are two ways. If you say that is very urgent, there is the Standing Committee who will be only too glad for any recommendation, and they meet once in three months. We are not prepared to give sanction to this ump sum. If the Hon'ble Member has any further information available to give us, let him do so.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Certainly not. I will be always ready to give up-to-date information.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അന്പൂക്കൻ.—പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു സംഖ്യ ബഡ്ജറ്റു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുമുന്പായി, എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റു പാസ്സായിട്ടുള്ള ഇനം മാത്രം ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർത്താൽ മതിയെന്നുവയ്ക്കുന്നതിൽ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു് വല്ല വിരോധവും ഉണ്ടൊ? ഓരോപണിക്കും എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റു് തയ്യാറാക്കണമെന്നും അതു് ദിവാൻ അനുവദിക്കണമെന്നുമാണല്ലൊ പറയുന്നതു്. അപ്രകാരം ദിവാൻ എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റു് പാസ്സാക്കുന്ന പണികൾക്കുള്ള പണം മാത്രം ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർക്കയുള്ളുഎന്നും അപ്രകാരം പാസ്സാക്കാത്ത യാതൊരു ഇനത്തിനുമുള്ള പണം ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർക്കയില്ലെന്നും വെയ്ക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് എന്തുദോഷമാണു് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനുള്ളതു്? ദിവാൻ പാസ്സാക്കുന്ന ഇനം മാത്രമെ ബഡ്ജറ്റു് ചെയ്കയുള്ളു എന്നു വന്നാൽ ഇത്തരം കുഴപ്പങ്ങൾ ഇല്ലാതെകഴിക്കാം. നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്ത ഘട്ടങ്ങളിൽ മാത്രം അത്തുകൂടാതെ കഴിക്കാനും വിരോധമില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് മേലാൽ അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു രീതി വെച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നു് എനിക്കു ഒരു അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടു്.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and re-assembled at 3 p. m.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Just to put a stop to further discussion of the subject, I wish to get an assurance from the Government that they will give us an opportunity of expressing our opinion upon any scheme just to be taken up before any money is spent. I think that no further discussion is necessary.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That I have already given.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We accept it.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—On that assurance, with the leave of the House, I withdraw my motion.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motions Nos. 27 A. & B.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,780 for "constructing a compound wall, etc.," by Rs. 500 (item No. 301, Appendix B, p. 28).*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 400 for "sinking a well for Girls' High School, Nemmara". (No. 302. Appendix B, p. 28.)*

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President.—Motion No. 27 A, Dr. A. G. Menon.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—May I know whether the Secretary will be able to enlighten me what the cut motion is about?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—27 B. The cut relates to the allotment for sinking a well in the Boys' High School, Nemmara.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Thanks. Before I place this before the Council, I want certain informations.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I think I may inform the Member, Sir, that I have already addressed the Government about it. There is no necessity for a well as the pipe is going to be extended.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Both for Boys' School and Girls' School?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There is no scheme at all for a well for the Boys' School.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—301 and 302. For Girls' High School, Nemmara, sinking a well, and constructing a latrine for the Nemmara High School.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—As regards the well, I have addressed the Government.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I withdraw my motions with the consent of the House.

President.—You withdraw both?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Yes.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Wells are not necessary either in the Boys' School or in the Girls' School.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Before finishing this, I think there is an item 294, concerning Chittur Irrigation system. A sum of Rs. 8,712 is budgetted. May I know the nature of the work?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—For the usual staff throughout the year.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—For the whole year? Do you want the whole staff to be engaged for the whole year?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Yes, throughout the year. The work is varying. All of them do not include the whole of the staff. This is for the usual staff.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Temporary staff. For how many months please? Because the distribution of water is only in certain fixed months.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The rest of the year also they are kept busy.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In what way?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Silt-clearing has got to be done.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Actual coolies do it.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—They are kept busy.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In the British section?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—No, no. In our section.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It is stated that the amount is for the charges of the temporary establishment to look after the Chittur and British Irrigation Systems. If the Services of the temporary staff are required for the whole of the year, why do you put in temporary? Temporary itself shows that their services are not required for the whole of the year.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—We want to reduce the staff gradually. They have been in service for years and years together.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That years' and years' *mamool* should be changed. That is my contention also. That is why I bring this.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—If you have any suggestions, you may bring forward. I shall gladly look into them.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—There is no staff. The staff includes Maistries and Watchmen. They are put under temporary staff.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Temporary means non-pensionable.

Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—There is a road through Mullurkayal which has got to be repaired in 1104, and it is said it will be repaired, and an expenditure of Rs. 717 is seen noted. This road is made to open a road to British territory, and Rs. 70,000 or Rs. 80,000 have already been spent for the road. But for want of a bridge, for which an additional expenditure of Rs. 8,000 is necessary, that road is not opened to the British territory. Then why has the Government spent Rs. 70 or 80 thousand for this road?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—That is a road that has been maintained for long.

Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—That road was made only for the purpose of opening a road to the British territory. Rs. 80,000 has been already spent by the Government in a country of three miles in circumference. It was about 4 years since that road was constructed and that bridge for which an expenditure of Rs. 8,000 more is necessary, it is not yet completed. Nothing is seen in this budget about that bridge. Therefore, I ask the Government whether the Government proposes to get it done.

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Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Several bridges are wanted.

Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—Rs. 80,000 has been already spent!

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—We will consider the matter. There are several cases like that.

Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—If a bridge was made, the road would have been much more useful. That is what I say.

(*The motions were with drawn with leave.*)

Motion No. 28.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for "10—Survey and Investigation."*

President.—Motion No. 28. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—May I know from the Public Works Member why this amount was budgetted?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I shall gladly explain. This is not for any big schemes. This is for small investigations. Supposing we want to make an estimate for a road or a building or anything like that. We want to make surveys. We have a paid surveyor. When a particular thing comes out, this surveyor is sent out, and there will be some expenditure or labour connected with that survey. The difficulty is estimating for such things beforehand. The expenditure for such surveying operations we don't know so as to budget accurately. So we want a lump sum so that out of that, whenever any work is undertaken, it might be a road, it might be a canal or a bridge, our surveyor can go and do the work of investigation. The minimum expenditure wanted for such investigation will be Rs. 2,000. It might be a little more sometimes if there are special works. It is not for any definite scheme. If we don't provide this lump sum we have to charge the expenditure under some other head and then transfer it when the estimate for the particular work is sanctioned. I think the lump sum allotment a much better way of doing it. Are you satisfied?

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave.*)

Motion No. 29.

B. Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

3. Water Works.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 30,000 for "item 71—Elevated Reservoir".*

President.—Motion No. 29, Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—My motion is only to know the object of the reservoir and whether it is of urgent necessity.

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Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is becoming an urgent necessity. This elevated reservoir is on the line of our rising main between Alwaye and here. The pipe line rises from Chowwara towards this elevated reservoir and then falls towards the reservoir that we have in Ernakulam. Up to the site of the proposed elevated reservoir the water comes by the force of the pumps, and from there it falls by gravity to the tank at Ernakulam. Therefore, if we have the elevated reservoir at that site, it will be at a very convenient place and it will supplement the reservoir at Ernakulam. This reservoir at present is not sufficient, especially because we are trying to supply water to Mattancheri. The proposed reservoir will be a bigger reservoir, but it need not be very much above the ground. The ground there is Travancore territory. That is one difficulty about it.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—May I say a few words in regard to that motion, the motion for the omission of Rs. 30,000 for the elevated reservoir? My standing up should not be interpreted as one for the omission of Rs. 30,000. I want to bring before the House one or two circumstances in connection with the second reservoir now proposed to be constructed. My wonder is only that this question of a supplementary reservoir was not taken up earlier before 1103 by the Government.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It was proposed to be taken up.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Though a Special and serious warning was given by an expert in the year 1921, if I remember correctly. It was seriously pointed out that there were serious defects in the whole system, one of which was the non-existence of a supplementary reservoir. Now, this question of a reservoir being an important point in connection with the perfection of this water works system, the next question arises where it ought to be located and what should be its cost. Now I am going to emphasise only two points in connection with this. One is the location and the second is the cost. As for the location, if I have understood the Hon'be Member for Engineering correctly, it has to be located mid-way, perhaps, between Chowwara and Ernakulam, and that point was selected for the reason that elevated ground was available, and, therefore, the flow from that elevated ground will be facilitated and perhaps some relief given to the machinery in pumping at the Head Works. I do agree that it is so. But what is the absolute necessity of that provision, for we can obtain better advantages by having the reservoir nearer to Ernakulam? Now, this question of locating the elevated reservoir between Chowwara and Ernakulam is, as far as I can remember, the result of the sug-

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gestion of the expert, to whose advice I have already referred, which was given to the Government in 1926. No doubt, he says it would be advisable to find a place between Chowwara and Ernakulam, that is, a place which will be elevated so that there may be this facility for the flow of water. But I believe that is the only word in his report which is emphasised by the Government, and there are one or two points in the report which have not been taken into consideration. It is this. Now, the duplication of machinery, under which the reservoir question also comes, is necessitated owing to anticipation of any accident that might happen to the whole system, so that, if there is only one reservoir, the water supply will be cut off, because there is no storage capacity. Now, I believe I am right in saying that the storage capacity of the Ernakulam elevated reservoir is only a lakh and eighty thousand gallons. Approximately calculating the population of Ernakulam at 22,000, this is a little more I know, and the rate of consumption as 10 gallons per head, you will find that the bare necessity will be 2,20,000 gallons at the rate of 10 gallons.

As the capacty is only a lakh and eighty thousand, it follows that, on calculation, the supply, the storage capacity is not sufficient for one day. Now the expert seems to think that, in a reservoir like this, at least there must be capacity for 3 days' consumption. If so, our reservoir should fulfil that condition or at least a condition approximating to that. By simply mentioning that it is to cost Rs. 30,000, we are at a loss to know what the capacity of the reservoir is to be. If we know that there is sufficient capacity according to the accepted principles, certainly I will give the first vote for that. One information that I seek in connection with that is the capacity of the reservoir that is to be constructed. Now then, there is the question as to the location. The reason why a supplementary reservoir was proposed to be located mid-way is with regard to the facilities as I said before. In that very report, to which I alluded, it will be found that the expert is absolutelyof opinion that it should be at an elevated place, at a place not quite distant from theone at which the reservoir now exists. In any case, the need of ample storage at a place so close to Ernakulam is an imperative necessity, and the earlier the same is provided, the better it will be. My point is, if an extra reservoir is to be constructed, it ought to be at Ernakulam, and I believe the reason, at least one of the reasons, which prompted the construction of a reservoir, is that there will be no deficiency of water supply in Ernakulam, if anything untoward happens to the machinery at Ernakulam. Now, supposing a breaking or a bursting, whatever

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that may be, happens at the elevated place, at which the elevated reservoir is to be located, will the construction or the location of the reservoir at the supposed place fulfil the condition? On the other hand, if it is in Ernakulam or very near to Ernakulam, supposing that condition comes, the supply will be close at hand and not far away, and of course, the mileage between the two being different, there will be less of apprehension so far as supply is concerned.

Now with regard to the cost. If I remember correctly, this reservoir, which has a storage capacity of a lakh and 80 thousand gallons, costs something like Rs. 20,000 or more. Now, why not construct a smaller one, of course removing the difficulties that it has now, and to which I referred now, in the very compound where this is located now? Why should we go to Travancore and pay our good money and make the Travancore people richer by acquiring lands at our expense? There is already a place available in Cochin, and if that is not sufficient, why not acquire a strong site which will be perfectly equal to the demand? That will do so far as the place is concerned. Why not have a reservoir at the other end of Ernakulam, *i. e.*, at the southern end, where land is not dear, and, therefore, the apprehended danger would be more easily averted than if the reservoir is located at a place far far away from Ernakulam? As far as I know, it is not very difficult to put another reservoir in the same compound here, or at any rate in some other place in Ernakulam, the ground for which can be easily got. Then it comes to the question of cost. Now, the probable estimate asked for is Rs. 30,000. If we make enquiries with regard to sites in Ernakulam, we may come to the conclusion that the cost is very high. Supposing it is reduced by Rs. 10,000 at least, the whole cost of the reservoir will be only Rs. 20,000. I don't see the necessity why Rs. 30,000 should be asked for as grant. Of course, with regard to the question of the present reservoir, it has, as I said before, only one compartment, if I may say so, and the difficulty of that is very seriously felt by the people of Ernakulam now, and perhaps to that I may have occasion to refer later on in the course of the day. Because that reservoir is going to be repaired, therefore, the use of that reservoir as a storage is not made use of, or is cut off for the present. If a reservoir is to be constructed, it may be constructed in two compartments. On these points if the Member for Engineering will kindly enlighten us, we will be glad.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I don't wish to enter into the technicalities of this subject, nor am I very much concerned about it. As a citizen, as a tax-payer of the Cochin State, I view this matter

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from a different angle of vision altogether. I have got an account here which indicates that, since the institution of this Municipality, since the introduction of this water work, this Municipality has enjoyed nearly 17 lakhs of public money for this supply as a special contribution. This water work has become the vital element of the Cochin State. Generally speaking, I am not by nature jealous of other people's good fortunes. When I have to represent various interests, it is my duty to enter my emphatic protest against the way in which the money is lavished upon a limited portion of the Cochin State. I have entered my protest last year on the very same subject, and I appeal to the Members of Ernakulam that it should not be construed as an attack upon them or upon the Municipality, but the principle, upon which this administration, this water work administration is carried on, is objectionable from every point of view. While I am entirely prepared to admit it, it is my intention to ask this House for a similar contribution for Trichur. I should be the last person to say, to object to Government giving generous contributions to start a work of this nature. But I do maintain, and I do submit that those who enjoy the benefits of this water work should be made to pay for the working of that. The maintenance expenditure should be borne by the people of Ernakulam and not by the whole of Cochin State. Since the introduction of this water work, a lakh and Rs. 45,000 have been paid out of public treasury to meet the expenditure of the water works. I submit it is inconsistent with good finance, good principles of economy, good principles of public finance that those people who squander away water and who use the water in public gardens should be allowed to do so with a light taxation and that we should be burdened with this additional taxation of nearly 12 to 14 thousand rupees every year. That is the point I want to bring to the notice of the House. We have no objection for the Government spending any amount. Make it two lakhs if you like, that is, double the amount to give adequate supply of water to Ernakulam. We would be the last persons to object. But we will object, and we are objecting to that, if the maintenance expenditure is thrown on our shoulders. I have never known any case anywhere where the maintenance expenditure is borne by the Government. The Municipality must tax itself. During these sixteen years, 17 and odd lakhs of rupees was given to Ernakulam, 3 and odd was given to Cochin, Rs. 14,000 to Trichur, and and Rs. 15,000 to Chittur. Do you call this just? There will be an end to this expenditure Now Rs. 30,000 is spent. How are you going to make that up? You will have to get the same

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out of the public exchequer. Why not the Ernakulam Municipality be compelled to pay in return ? They say as an argument that, if the works are not done, we will manage. We don't care whether the Government manages or the Municipality manages. We insist upon the introduction of the meter system, so that he who uses more water must be made to pay for that. It would be unfair, Sir, to tax all on the same level. For example, in a house which pays a rental of Rs. 12 suppose there are 12 persons living and in another house you have only 2 persons living. What is the use of telling me that both are taxed on the same level ? It is not fair, and I wanted to impress upon the Government this point so that this question may be taken up for consideration. Otherwise there will be always trouble about this, and since these people are not made to realise their responsibility, they are asking for all these things. Once make them pay, and then you will find there is plenty of water for Cochin, Mattancheri or for any other place. I have only to point out this, I again emphatically protest against the way the Government is taking public money and spending it for a limited portion of the public.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—The Member for Trichur forgets the fact that Ernakulam is the capital of the State and that the capital is not maintained for the maintenance of the capital. It is for the advantage of the whole State. The benefits of such works are not only for the residents of the place but to the advantage of all. In such matters certainly Government is expected to provide greater amounts.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—To the advantage of all who visit Ernakulam ?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I know what is the amount that is spent for the Chittur Taluk for irrigation? I don't want to indulge in parochialism. The Hon'ble Member for Trichur referred to our enjoying the benefits of the water supply which was vouchsafed by His Highness' Government and which had made Ernakulam habitable.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—No parochialism in a Legislative Council.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Suppose the Member takes Government to task for giving money to Chittur Taluk. Most of the Chitturians won't like that. I might say for the information of my Hon'ble friend that many of the houses that now exist in Ernakulam would be uninhabitable without the existence of this water system. As the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam just now stated, after all is said and done, Ernakulam is the capital of the State. I don't mean that we want to waste

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money. Without water, Ernakulam would be a place for plague, cholera and other things, and I am sure that many of the people residing in Ernakulam will simply find it impossible to continue to live there. We have got the Chief Court which is the head of the Judicial Administration. People from Trichur, Chittur, &c., will have to come. They don't want to return with filarial germs inside their stomachs to contaminate Trichur and Chittur. Then, we have got our central medical institution here. A gentleman coming from Trichur with an ache or other does not want to go to Trichur with sundry germs and contaminate Trichur. There are also many other central institutions here. The college is here, the hospital is here, the Huzur is here and ever so many other public institutions. Therefore, this criticism does not come well from Members mouths. I might respectfully say that money has been spent and not lavished in giving water to Ernakulam.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We pay in the shape of land revenue.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—We are paying, as one Member pointed out, water-tax, even houses not served by the system. Not only Ernakulam but also the whole State is benefitted. As for the reservoir, I am inclined to think that it has become a serious necessity, since we have started giving water to Mattancheri. As regards this idea of my friend for Vyttila I don't agree with him. There are various matters to be considered in this connection. I don't think modern pipes are as liable to burst as modern pumping machinery is capable of going out of order. So that, the chances of disorder, or inconvenience arising out of pipe bursting are far less than the chances of the machinery going wrong. On the other hand, as regards his scheme, there is one important thing which I think he did not count. That is, if we put up any reservoir at a low level like Ernakulam, the advantage to be gained by the action of gravity will be lost. We shall have to pump all the water down to Ernakulam. If I followed the Member for P. W. D. correctly, one of the advantages gained by having a reservoir at an elevated place was the advantage of the elevation in utilising gravitation power to pump water more cheaply and efficiently. However, that is a matter for experts. I only say that Ernakulam should not be starved for want of sufficient water.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I want to know the answer to the information asked by the Member for Vyttila.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Are there no non-official Members to speak? The capacity of the reservoir at Edappalli will be 5,00,000 gallons—three times that of the present

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reservoir at Ernakulam. The one at Ernakulam costs a great deal more than Rs. 20,000.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—It is a lakh and eight thousand.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Not so much. It is Rs. 59,000, and when we get a reservoir of three times that capacity at half the cost, I think it is worth trying. By going to Travancore, the extra that we pay for land acquisition is comparatively small.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the capacity of the Ernakulam reservoir?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—1,80,000 gallons.

Up to this reservoir water comes up against the head and from there it will flow by gravitation, and, therefore, the pipes need not be at high pressure. Therefore, there is much less chance of their bursting and, therefore, you need not fear of a bursting, for our pipes are tested to 300 feet water pressure. The pipes are practically safe against bursting, and there is no fear of any other danger between Edappalli and here. I may say, by placing it at Edappalli, we incur hardly any risk of that sort. On the other hand, by paying half the sum that was paid for this iron reservoir, we can get a reservoir of three times capacity. That is the advantage. The friction from Edappalli to Ernakulam will be overcome by gravity. We won't have to work by pumps. So it will be a great relief to the pumps. On the whole it is a splendid proposal. So there should be no hesitation whatsoever. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I am of opinion that it is absolutely necessary that we should have an additional reservoir that has been referred to by the Member for Vyttila. You know, Sir, with what amount of difficulty, when the Government proposed in the very first Council to introduce meter system, we got a resolution passed that the meter should be abolished; but my friend, the Member for Trichur, seems to be now jealous that the Ernakulam people are using good water. I don't understand why he should feel that jealousy, in fact the head does not exist for itself. The body cannot exist without the head, and if Ernakulam were deprived of this pipe water, it would be actually contaminating the head, which must certainly affect the body. On that occasion also, I had an opportunity to describe the pitiable condition of Ernakulam if this pipe water system was not allowed freely to be taken advantage of. As it is now, there is not sufficient water. We feel a certain amount of difficulty. Sometimes after applying oil on our body, when we go to the pipe, there is no water. We are put to great inconvenience. Let us at least be given enough of good water. Whether it

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costs Rs. 30,000 or a lakh of rupees, the Government can give at least drinking water to Ernakulam. It is not for the exclusive use of the Ernakulam people alone. The head exists, as I said, for the body as well. There is no necessity for anybody to complain, I mean any Member coming from the mofussil to complain, that Ernakulam is well supplied. In fact in all other places the capital towns and cities are better looked after. In capitals better facilities are given, and it is certainly out of the income obtained from the whole provinces also. As proposed by the Member for Vyttila, I would even suggest that the reservoir must be here although we may have to incur additional expenditure. If the reservoir is in Travancore, the land will not be within our jurisdiction. If the land also is within our jurisdiction, we will be able to take care of it better. What difference in cost will there be if we have the reservoir here ? I mean what additional expenditure would it come to, if the reservoir be at Ernakulam ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—A reservoir of the same capacity will cost Rs. 60,000.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—We have enough funds for it. It is better that the whole water system is entirely within our dominions. Government should consider that also before we acquire lands in Travancore. If something should happen to the reservoir in Travancore or somebody there do some mischief, since you keep the water stored there, there will be no possibility of getting water direct from Chowwara. Our reservoir being in Travancore, we cannot exercise the same control on it as we can do if it were in Cochin. So, I think, instead of going to Travancore for acquiring land and constructing a reservoir, the whole system should be within our land even though we have to incur additional expenditure. I think, in any case, we have to construct a reservoir, and if a duplicate system is also necessary, this House, I suppose, ought to give any amount of money for that purpose. I say that there is a heavy responsibility on the part of the Government to give the people ample supply of water for drinking purposes, etc., and I suppose the difficulty that now exists will be over if the additional reservoir is introduced. I think the Government should not grudge spending 30,000 rupees and even a large sum for our water supply.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I withdraw the motion with leave.

(The motion was withdrawn with leave.)

Motions Nos. 30—31.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 67,970 for "water works 3 (a) and (b)" by Rs. 4,500.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 67,970 for "water works 3 (a) and (b)" by Rs. 4,500.*

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President.—Motion No. 30.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Sir, this may be converted into a token motion as I gave the figures without noticing one page of the budget.

The object of this motion is to draw the attention of the Government to the serious hardship caused to certain sections of the Ernakulam public on account of a recent order of the Chief Engineer prohibiting or suspending extensions and alterations to the existing service connections. Now, in certain parts of Ernakulam there are no pipes even in the main roads, and the people there are, therefore, without any means of getting Alwaye water, that is to say, they are deriving no benefit from Alwaye water system though they have ever been paying the water-tax as the people in other parts of Ernakulam. (*Hear, hear.*) That seems to me very unjust. Now the reason alleged for stopping this is the exorbitant consumption of water in the town and the consequent difficulty of meeting the demand with the existing machinery. That does not seem to me just. If the exorbitant consumption be due to the wastage of water, it is those who waste the water that should be made to suffer and not the innocent people who have not had the benefit of the Alwaye water at all, even though they are paying the tax. If, on the other hand, the supply is not sufficient to meet the demand, I do not see why the water should not be evenly distributed to all the persons, for whose benefit the system was intended and who pay the water-tax. If the water is wasted, it is for the Government to see that wastage is not made by taking remedial measures.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Accept meter gauge.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How to do that without meter?

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—That is no reason why the innocent should be made to suffer. Some other remedy must be found out.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 67,970 for "water works 3 (a) and (b)" by Rs. 4,500.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—In rising to second the motion of the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam, I claim the privileges of the mover, because a similar motion stands in my name, which comes next in point of time. Now, the reason assigned for the refusal of service connections as well as the laying of mains in streets is this. As has been read out to the House, "In view of the exorbitant consumption of water in the town and the consequent difficulty of meeting the demand with the existing machinery, all extensions or alterations to the existing service connections will be temporarily suspended till the new

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machinery at the Head Works is erected". Now the reason assigned is not the wastage but only the exorbitant consumption. Now that consumption, I believe, includes consumption from Mattancheri also, because we find barges are running three times a day, if I remember correct.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It runs only twice now.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The capacity of those barges, I believe, is 10,000 gallons, and if it runs 5 times, it is about 50,000 gallons every day for Mattancheri. It does not run 5 times now, probably on account of the weather. That is another matter. Anyhow, the consumption includes consumption for Mattancheri also, and there is no allegation of waste so far as this communication is concerned. With regard to the suspension of service connection and laying of mains in streets, the excuse put forward seems to be 'until the new machinery at the Head Works is erected'. Now what is the machinery that is to be put up which will supply the necessary quantity? If I understand the situation correctly, the pumping capacity of the old pump is about 625 gallons per minute. Therefore, on a rough calculation, it will be found that you will be getting 37,500 gallons per hour, and at the rate of 10 gallons per head, it will require 2 lakhs and 20 thousand gallons only per day. That you are supplying now, because the service connection is continued from 6 a. m. to 6 p. m. Therefore, when the consumption that can be anticipated can be supplied by the existing machinery, how it happens that extensions and the laying of mains become impossible with the present machinery is what I really cannot understand. No doubt, by extension more consumption will be resorted to. But, because there is this difficulty about consumption, I do not see the reason why what little is available cannot be evenly distributed so far as it is possible. Now, the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam said that there are many people in the town itself who are without any water supply at all. With what little we can have from Chowwara why not all the people be supplied? Never mind whether it is a lesser quantity. If a lesser quantity alone is possible, let it be the lesser quantity. Let that be distributed. Therefore, I emphasise the fact that there is no sufficient justification for withholding these service connections and extensions of the pipe line on account of this difficulty which the Hon'ble Member for Engineering seems to apprehend.

One word more. This refusal becomes all the more injurious when the House is told that the refusal comes after taking all the money necessary for extension. The procedure adopted is

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this. When an application is made for service extensions, an order is made for estimating the cost. I know, as a matter of fact, in atleast 6 instances such applications had been made, estimates prepared, money deposited and then comes the refusal that there is no possibility for extensions at present. (*Hear, hear.*) This is with regard to service connections.

Then with regard to the Municipality itself. It will be remembered that, when sanction was accorded for laying the mains in some streets, the necessary amounts were transferred to the Public Works Department. When the money is transferred, it is as good as saying that they will do what they were expected to do. What will be the effect when, after receiving the money, it is said that it is not possible to extend the connection? The specific injuries are the refusal after taking the money and when there is the possibility of meeting the demand though not to the fullest extent by the present supply, refusing service connections as well.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I would like to know what is the quantity of water given to the Tatas and to the Railway Company per day.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I have not got the exact figures. I shall give them.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I would like to say one or two words with reference to this very matter.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—I think the water supplied to the Tatas is 10,000 gallons a day.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—At the rate of 12 annas per thousand gallons. And the Railway Company ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—They are paying at the rate of 2 rupees and I think they are also given 10,000 gallons.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is no portion of the water used for boilers, may I know ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—No.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Are you sure ? I am credibly informed that Tata Boilers are running on filtered water.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No, so far as my information goes.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Are we bound by any contract to be continually supplying to the Tatas and the Railways this quantity? I want to know whether it is possible for us to take away that water from them.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—There is a contract with the Tatas.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That has to be examined.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Sir, I want to say one or two

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words in this connection, since the mover has referred to the recent order passed by the Chief Engineer, with reference to this matter. Now, it will be remembered that in the matter of laying mains the Municipality has taken a loan from the Government paying interest in instalments, and a good portion of the amount is being adjusted at the beginning of every year for the purpose of laying the mains and that, as the Member for Vyttila remarked, has been adjusted to the Public Works Accounts. The Municipality is compelled to pay interest upon that amount, and yet the Chief Engineer would say no more mains would be allowed. Who is to bear this interest? It is a loan granted to the Municipality. The Municipality has no funds. The rate-payer always complains "no water". When he says "no water",we want mains to be put up and for that we have no roads and we have no funds. We apply for loans, and it is with great difficulty that loans are granted to us. One road construction is taken up and finished. Then we utilise a portion of the loan for the purpose of laying mains and then the amount is adjusted to the Public Works Department and after that, the work is never taken up. And what is it that we are now told? "There is now no chance of the work being taken up." The poor Municipality is paying the interest. You will be pleased to know that not even half the population of Ernakulam derive any benefit from the water supply now, though each and every house has to pay the water-tax as a portion of the house-tax itself. I say every house in the Municipality of Ernakulam has to pay the water-tax as well. And yet many houses don't get water. Is there any justification for not supplying them with water? Now, the present order affects them most. The people, who had been given house-connections were getting some little quantity or other from the water supply, though it is very scarce at present. But as far as the other part of the town is concerned, where we have recently opened roads, they are not getting the benefit of this water supply at all. You say, extensions cannot be had; hydrants cannot be put up. Is that not hard? In the order the reason stated is 'on account of the exorbitant consumption'. Will you just allow me to refer to one circumstance in this connection? During the time I was the Municipal Chairman here, I was asking the Government for statistics of the quantity of water that is being consumed in public buildings, that is, Government Houses, Hospitals, Colleges, Hostels, Residential Palaces, and the Krishna Vilas and so many other places. A large quantity of water is consumed in these places for which the poor tax-payer pays the tax. Is the Government paying anything for that? And now it is said, "You can have no water

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because your machinery has to be duplicated and so we are not able to supply water. That is rather very hard. One thing more, Sir. Theoretically at least, I suppose, the water works is under the management of the Municipality, and the Municipality is primarily responsible for the supply of water. In these circumstances, before you issued the order—I had put the same question with reference to this very matter—before you issued the order temporarily, however urgent it might have been, did you consult the Municipal authorities—I mean the Municipal Chairman? I consider that the order was highly unconstitutional.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സർ, വെള്ളം തികയാഞ്ഞിട്ട് കൊടുക്കണ്ടാല്ലെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞതു് വാസ്തവമാണെന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ വെള്ളം തികയ്ക്കുവാനുള്ള വഴി ആലോചിക്കണം. മറവു തക്കുങ്ങാം കൊണ്ടു കാര്യമില്ല. തികഞ്ഞിട്ടും കൊടുക്കാതിരിക്കുവാൻ ഗവ മെണ്ടു് അത്ര കുത്തുമ്പന്മാരല്ലല്ലൊ. വെള്ളം തികയാത്തതു് ടാറായിലേയ്ക്കും റയിൽവെയ്ക്കും കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതു കൊണ്ടാണെങ്കിൽ അതു തടയണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—കൊച്ചിയിലേയ്ക്കു കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതെ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എറണാകുളത്തേയ്ക്കു വെള്ളം വേണമെങ്കിൽ കൊച്ചിക്കും വേണം. അതു എറണാകുളത്തിന്റെ തന്നെ രക്ഷക്കു വെണ്ടിയാണ. കൊച്ചിയിൽ നിന്നും രോഗങ്ങൾ ഇങ്ങോട്ടു വരാതിരിക്കുവാൻ.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, one of the Hon'ble Members here remarked on the first day of the Budget Session or rather on the second day that the collection of tax from people without giving them adequate relief is robbery. If that be robbery, I ask collecting the tax and the water-tax from the people and not giving them any pipe connection at all—what that should be called (*hear, hear*). I cannot understand any justification for the Government to have entered into a contract with the Tatas and the Railway Company to supply them 20,000 gallons of water every day and at a concessional rate when you charge an excessive rate from the poor population of Ernakulam. That is why I asked the Hon'ble Member to give me that information. If there is any possibility to cancel that agreement, we must do so and utilise that water for our purpose. They must bring their own water if they want. We are not to starve our own people here by supplying the Tatas and the Railway Company the water that is necessary for us. It is a serious crime on the part of the Government to starve our own people and to give others 20,000 gallons of water daily, and, therefore, it is

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absolutely necessary that the Government should look into that agreement and very earnestly see if there is any possibility of our stopping that supply to the Tatas, &c., and to utilise that quantity also for the distribution at Ernakulam. In any case, we should not restrict the water supply at Ernakulam. The only thing that makes Ernakulam habitable for the people now is its supply of good water, and if you are going to restrict that, there is no greater sin that the Government can commit so far as the Ernakulam population is concerned, and there is absolutely no justification, as has been pointed out by the Member for Vellarappalli, for your collecting the water-tax from people and not giving them pipe connection. So my humble submission is that the Government should see its way to find out a method to give more water to Ernakulam.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I am exrtemely glad that we had this early opportunity of discussing this whole question, so soon after the orders were passed. The orders about extension of service connections and alterations of service connections were passed by the permanent Chief Engineer and they do not work so very great a hardship, I believe, but it is my order (*hear, hear*), about stopping service connections entirely and refusing to lay mains in new streets, that has caused a greater hardship and irritation against me.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—It is no irritation against you.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Anyhow I am glad I got this early opportunity of ventilating the whole question before this Hon'ble House consisting of Members not only from Ernakulam and Mattancheri but from the whole State, and I am particularly thankful for it. In explaining why it was so done, I am not going to indulge in any theoretical consideration but am only going to tell you what happened a few months ago.

In Meenam and Medam last, the work of sending sufficient water to Ernakulam was a very arduous task. The staff at the Head Works had to work practically the whole 24 hours and for 60 days on end.

The working pressure at which the pumps should work, as designed by Mr. Mody, was 50 feet head of water. Our pipes were tested before use to 300 feet head, *i. e.*, the ratio of working pressure to test pressure was 1 to 6. This working pressure had to be increased in Meenam and Medam to 180 feet head of water thereby reducing the ratio between working pressure and testing pressure to 1: 1·7. The pressure gauge supplied with our venturimeter was graduated only to a pressure of 100 feet

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head of water. The working pressure having gone beyond the range of the gauge, the gauge became useless and another gauge has had to be ordered. 180 feet head of water is not a safe pressure to use for long. Imagine what will happen if a weak pipe bursts somewhere. Because of the high pressure used, the engines actually broke down twice in the course of these two months. Yet, in spite of the 24 hour's working, I had to cut off supplies from 11 p. m. to 5 a. m. for over 6 weeks. This was done with the Chairman's knowledge. I do not want to commit the permanent Chief Engineer to the event of facing next Meenam and Medam with these conditions. Besides, next Meenam and Medam, we have to give Mattancheri 50,000 gallons against 18,000 gallons I give now.

Under these circumstances, Government stopped further service connections till the matter could be fully investigated. Government is quite satisfied that the unusual consumption is in the house service connections. This I shall prove to the House.

In Meenam last, an average of 600,000 gallons of water were given in the 24 hours. This was consumed by 133 public taps of which 92 are half-inch and 41 three-quarter-inch and also 675 house service connections. After the large increase of house connections the public taps do not consume much water. In fact the Chairman is satisfied that several of them may be shut off. The half-inch taps can deliver only two gallons per minute and the $\frac{3}{4}$ inch taps $3\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per minute. So all the taps together kept forcibly open for 12 hours can discharge only 2,35,800 gallons. That figure is surely very much more than the actual amount discharged by the taps. But still let us assume that that amount of water is used at the taps. In addition an average of 18,000 gallons were sent for Mattancheri. The 675 house connections, therefore, consumed the rest of 600,000 gallons used in Ernakulam. I shall take that each house had an average of 10 inhabitants, *i. e.*, 6,750 people consumed 3,46,200 gallons, or 58 per cent of the whole water supplied to Ernakulam. This works out to 53 gallons per head per day. Mr. Mody provided only $7\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head per day with the pumps working for 12 hours. If the pumps worked for 24 hours he said it would be possible to give 15 gallons per day. But the 6,750 people with house service connections actually consume $3\frac{1}{2}$ times the maximum allowance given by Mr. Mody. The population at Ernakulam at the time Mr. Mody started the works was 20,000. He provided for 30,000. Last census it was 24,000. I reckon at present it is 28,000. At 15 gallons they will want only 4,20,000 gallons. I supplied in

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Meenam 6,00,000 gallons and the 6,750 people with house connections consumed in Meenam not less than 83 per cent of the supply Mr. Mody intended for the whole 28,000 people now in the town and at the rate of 53 gallons per head per day. London town gives only 40 gallons per head per day. There is no doubt the consumption in the service connections is excessive. In 1925 the permanent Chief Engineer pointed out to this Council that metering will be an efficient check on consumption. This Council was not disposed to accept that method.

Government is aware of the injustice involved in allowing people who have already got house connections to go on enjoying the luxury they have, while others paying the same water-tax based on the rental value are denied similar amenities. But it is more for the Ernakulam Municipality and the educated well-to-do people there who are enjoying luxuries to find out means of preventing this injustice than any one else. If you ask me for a remedy, I can suggest nothing else than metering. That is the remedy found successful all over the world. If you don't want it, it is the duty of the House to suggest some other remedy. If you have no remedy to suggest, may I suggest that a small committee of not more than seven people be appointed consisting of the Chairmen of Ernakulam and Mattancheri Municipalities, the Secretary to the Diwan, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, the Chief Engineer and two Hon'ble Members not connected with Ernakulam selected by this House, and that this committee should study the whole question and take expert advice, if necessary, to solve the problem? This committee can go into the question whether the distribution can be given over to Ernakulam Municipality.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—You said that metering will be an efficient check on consumption. Why don't you try that first in public buildings, please?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I shall immediately begin that.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is there any record to show the quantity of water that actually enters the town of Ernakulam though there is a record to show the actual quantity pumped?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—We have a meter there and all the water that is pumped enters Ernakulam.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is there a meter to measure the water that actually comes to Ernakulam?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Can you tell me whether it leaks anywhere?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I can only say that it is quite

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likely because the service has been in existence for 10 or 12 years.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is being examined every day. A man goes up and down every day and detects even slight moisture.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I shall accept all the figures that you have given if you can assure me that every drop that is pumped from there comes to Ernakulam through some record kept here. Of course I do not mean to say that your assumption is wrong.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—If necessary we shall have a meter here.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—If that is installed and you find there is exorbitant consumption in Ernakulam, I accept all your proposals.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Suggestions seem to be already pending. The committee is working. What is the objection to cancel the present order? Should the present order be allowed to stand till the committee finds out ways and means? There is no difficulty. Should the poor people suffer until the solution is arrived at by the committee?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I would like to have the opinion of the Ernakulam Municipality. A letter from the Ernakulam Municipal Chairman is pending reply. Let me reply.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—He is for cancelling the order.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I want some sort of assurance.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—What is the assurance that you want?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I would like to see him and talk to him before I reply.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I know exactly whether the Public Works Department has the right of controlling the distribution of water? Does not your function stop with the supply of water to the Municipality?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—At the toll gate? (*Laughter.*)

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Does not the P. W. D.'s part in this matter consist of keeping the machinery at Chowwara efficient and going for pumping the requisite quantity of water? Have you got any power to interfere in the distribution of water at Ernakulam?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I think it is a lawyer's question.

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Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Before you interfere with the distribution system, you have got to make sure yourself that you have the power, *i. e.*, whether you can interfere with the internal management. You have no doubt got a hand in laying down pipes and giving pipe connections. Indeed that is only a subsidiary duty which the Municipality may entrust to somebody else.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I can cut off water from any house.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Have you got the function of determining the distribution of water in Ernakulam? It struck me, during the course of the discussion, that the P. W. D. could not dictate terms to the city fathers of Ernakulam. Water supply should be under their control, for it is their concern. What I want to know is whether you have tried to make yourself sure that you have power to curtail water distribution. So far as we are aware, there is no law, and if you have acted without legal power, it is *ultra vires*. The Government may give kindly the answer to the point.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Whose property is it? Is it the property of the Government or the property of the Ernakulam Municipality?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I think it is a gift to the Municipality.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—No, I am asking the question to the Government. Can you give an answer or do you decline? I am asking the Government, whose property is it.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is the Government property.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Whose property, Sir, are the various buildings that exist in this town that are under the Municipality? They are also, I conceive, Government property. I mean buildings under the Municipality.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—They are vested in the Government.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—As soon as you have delegated the power to the Municipality, that power is with the Municipality. Whether you have constitutional power to control the supply of water while there are city fathers, that is the question of law.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I do not know exactly. The management of these water works rests with the Mechanical Department and the Mechanical Department is under the P.W.D.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—By way of information, Sir, Mr. Mody was called the Municipal and Water Works Engineer.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—I don't press the motion

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and with the consent of the House I withdraw it.

(*The motion was, with leave withdrawn.*)

Motions Nos. 32—33.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,76,491 for "3—water works" by Rs. 10.*

Public Works—Total.

Mr. P. C. Chanchan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 14,30,800 under "Demand No. XXVII" by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 32 by Mr. K. J. Antony.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—I don't press the motion.

(*Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.*)

President.—Motion No. 33 by Mr. P. C. Chanchan.

Mr. P. C. Chanchan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 14,30,800 under 'Demand' No. XXVII" by Re. 1.*

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. സി. ചാഞ്ചൻ.—ഈ ഡിമ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിനെപറ്റി എനിക്ക് പറയുവാനുള്ളതു് ഇതിലേയ്ക്കു ചിലവു ചെയ്യുന്ന തുപാകുട്ടുവാനൊ കുറയ്ക്കുവാനൊ അല്ല. പാവങ്ങളായ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് (പുലയക്കു്) ചെറിയതരം കരിങ്കൽ കൺട്രാക്ടുകൾ അനുവദിച്ചുകിട്ടണമെന്നു് അപേക്ഷിക്കുവാനാണു് ഈ മോഷൻ ഞാൻ അയച്ചതു്. ഞങ്ങളിൽ അധികംപേരും കരിങ്കൽ ജോലിക്കാരാണു്. വലിയ വലിയ ആളുകൾക്കു് കൺട്രാക്ടു് കൊടുത്താലും ഈ കരിങ്കൽ ജോലി ഞങ്ങളാണു് ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് കൂലിമാത്രമെ കിട്ടുകയുള്ളു. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ജോലികൾ ചെറിയ കൺട്രാക്ടുകളായി ഞങ്ങൾക്കുതന്നാൽ ഞങ്ങൾതന്നെ ആ ജോലിക്കാരായതുകൊണ്ടു് അതിൽനിന്നുമുള്ള ആദായം ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് അനുഭവിക്കുവാൻ ഇടവരുന്നതാണു്. ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇതിൽ പ്രാപ്തിയുള്ളതിനാൽ ഈ ചെറിയതരം കൺട്രാക്ടുകൾ എങ്കിലും ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് തരുവാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകണം. ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇപ്പോൾ സൊസൈറ്റികൾ ഉണ്ടു്. സൊസൈറ്റികൾ വഴിക്കു് അതു നടത്തുവാൻ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് കഴിയും. ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ മുതുകാടു സൊസൈറ്റിക്കു് കരിങ്കൽ കൺട്രാക്ടുകൾ തരികയാണെങ്കിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ നല്ലവണ്ണം നടത്താം. (*Hear, hear.*) ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെ അധികവും ജോലിചെയ്യുന്നതു് തിരുവിതാംകൂർകാരായ കരിങ്കൽ പണിക്കാരാണു്. കൊച്ചിക്കാർക്കു് ജോലി കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. കൊച്ചിയിൽ ഇങ്ങിനെ ധാരാളം ജോലിയുണ്ടു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂർകാർവന്നു ജോലിചെയ്തു അവർ പണം കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നു. അതിനാൽ കരിങ്കൽ ജോലിക്കാരായ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു ഈ കൺട്രാക്ടുകൾ തരുവാൻ ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയർ അവർകൾക്കു ദയവുണ്ടാകണം. ഞങ്ങൾ ടെൻഡർ വാങ്ങി നടത്തികൊള്ളാം. ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് ഞങ്ങളെ സഹായിക്കുവാൻ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്കു് ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു സഹായംകൂടെ ചെയ്താൽ പെട്ടെന്നു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് ഉന്നതി ഉണ്ടാകുവാൻ എളുപ്പമുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ

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കരങ്കൽ കണ്ടാക്ടുകാരം എങ്കിലും ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് തരുവാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകണമെന്ന് ഒരിക്കൽകൂടി അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ടെൻഡേഴ്സ് കൂടാതെ ചെറിയ കൺടാക്ടുകാരം കൊടുക്കാറുണ്ടോ?

റാവുബഹദൂർ മിസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ കുര്യൻ.—ചെറിയ കൺടാക്ടുകാരം ടെൻഡർ കൂടാതെ കൊടുക്കാറുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എന്നാൽ അതു അവർക്ക് (പുലയർക്ക്) കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. വെങ്കിടരായർ:—ഈ കാര്യത്തെ പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാം.

റാവുബഹദൂർ മിസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ കുര്യൻ.—ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷകൻ എന്നോടു എഴുതി ചോദിച്ചിരുന്നു. ഞാനും അദ്ദേഹവുമായി ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് എഴുത്തുകുത്തുകാരം നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷകൻ എന്നോടു ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതു കൺടാക്ടർമാരോടു പറഞ്ഞു അധഃകൃതർക്ക് കീഴ്കുത്തക കൊടുപ്പിക്കണമെന്നായിരുന്നു. ഇതു വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും ഉപദ്രവവും ഉള്ള കാര്യമാണെന്നു മറുപടി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു. എന്തെന്നാൽ കീഴ്കുത്തക കൊടുത്താൽ ഗുമസ്തലബോധം മാറിപ്പോകുമെന്നു അർത്ഥം വരാം. കീഴ്കുത്തക കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ കൺടാക്ടർമാരോടു പറയുന്നതു തന്നെ മോശമത്തരം. അഥവാ പറഞ്ഞു കൊടുപ്പിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞ് എന്തെങ്കിലും തകരാറുണ്ടായാൽ കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്തുവാൻ തരമില്ലെന്നു വരും. കൺടാക്ടർമാർ തന്നെ കുറ്റം കാണിച്ചാലും കീഴ്കുത്തക കൊടുത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണെന്നും അവിടുന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടാണു കൊടുത്തതെന്നും പറഞ്ഞൊഴിയുവാൻ അവർക്ക് ഒരു വഴിയുമായിത്തീരും. മൂലധനം ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കു കൺടാക്ടുകാരം കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘങ്ങളാക്കി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി അവയുടെ ഗുമസ്തലയിൽ ഉടമ്പടികാരം കൊടുക്കാം. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഞാൻ ഇഞ്ചിനീയർ ആയിരുന്ന കാലത്തും പിന്നീടു ഉദ്യോഗമൊഴിഞ്ഞശേഷം അധഃകൃതരുടെ ഇടയിൽ ജോലി ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന സന്ദർഭത്തിലും ഇത്തരം വേലകാരം അവർക്കായി ഞാൻ കൊടുക്കുകയും, വാങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. പക്ഷേ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്തതെല്ലാം പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘങ്ങളാക്കി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി ആ സംഘത്തിന്റെ ഗുമസ്തലയിലാണ്. അങ്ങിനെ ഇവിടേയും ഇവർ പരസ്പരസഹായ സംഘങ്ങളാക്കി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി അതിന്റെ ഗുമസ്തലയിൽ അപേക്ഷിച്ചാൽ കൺടാക്ടു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു വിരോധമില്ല. എന്നുമാത്രമല്ല, അധഃകൃതർക്കു പലേ സൌജന്യങ്ങളും കൂടി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനും ഞാൻ തയാറുണ്ട്. വളരെ പ

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രാതികൾ ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണ് വേലകളെല്ലാം കഴിയുന്നടത്തോളം ടെൻഡർമൂലം കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—എത്ര രൂപാവരെയുള്ള സംഖ്യക്കു് ടെൻഡർ കൂടാതെ കൊടുക്കാം?

റാവുബഹാദൂർ മിസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ കയ്യൻ.—അയ്യായിരം രൂപാവരെയുള്ളതു് ടെൻഡർ കൂടാതെ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നാണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. സി. ചാഞ്ചൻ.—അയ്യായിരം രൂപാവരെ ഉള്ള സംഖ്യക്കും ടെൻഡർ കൊടുത്തു് കണ്ടാക്കു് എടുക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നവർ ഇപ്പോഴും ഞങ്ങളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിലുണ്ടു്. അതിനുതക്ക പണമുള്ളവരും ഉണ്ടു്.

റാവുബഹാദൂർ മിസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ കയ്യൻ.—ഒക്കെ പണം എടുക്കാവുന്നവർ ടെൻഡർ കൊടുക്കട്ടെ. പണമില്ലെങ്കിൽ അങ്ങു് പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘംവഴി അപേക്ഷിപ്പെടണമെന്നു് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്. പണം ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ വളരെ നല്ലതാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—അയ്യായിരം രൂപായിൽ കൂടിയസംഖ്യയെ പറ്റിയാണു് ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയർ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ദിവാൻ സാക്ഷ്യേർ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാമെന്നപറഞ്ഞു. ആ ആലോചന അനുകൂലമായിട്ടോ പ്രതികൂലമായിട്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. വെങ്കടഅയ്യർ.—അനുകൂലമായി ആലോചിക്കാമെന്നാണു് പറഞ്ഞതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—വേല ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അന്നന്നു കഴിഞ്ഞുകൂടുന്ന പാവപ്പെട്ടവരാണു് അവർ. മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ എല്ലാം ദാസന്മാരാണു് അവർ. ഈ കരിങ്കൽപണി എങ്കിലും നോക്കിട്ടു അവരെ ഏല്പിച്ചാൽ അവർക്കു് കുറച്ചെങ്കിലും ഉന്നമനം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് വളരെ അഗാധമായ ദയവോടുകൂടി ഇതിനെപറ്റി ആലോചിക്കണമെന്നു് എനിക്കും അപേക്ഷ ഉണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. സി. ചാഞ്ചൻ.—ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ പിൻവലിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു.

(The motion was withdrawn with the consent of the House.)

Motion No. 34.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.— *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,49,405, for "Public Works votable" by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 34, Mr. A. Eachara Menon.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Sir, I have tabled this cut to bring to the earnest consideration of the Government the most scandalous and irresponsible way the irrigation is managed in the Chittur Taluk. There are three main anicuts in the Chittur river covering about 9 thousand acres of wet land. These anicuts used to be under the control of three separate Section Superintendents

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and all the three were under an Overseer. So long as the jurisdiction of the Assistant Engineer remains as it is, it is very essential that this system should be followed. Now there is only one Section Superintendent and one Overseer, the latter having control of the Moolathara system alone, the other two being under the control of the Section Superintendent. Sir, please imagine the difficulty which we are placed in, if we wish to represent our grievances for want of a responsible officer in the place. The Department,especially in the lower ranks, is through and through corrupt. Want of proper control over them is writ large all along the system. Sir, it is not sufficient that we have anicuts, and officers to empty the treasury. The system should be fit to carry water, and the officers ready to make proper use of the water. The canals are silted up. The water would not readily flow along. The silt-clearance is not properly done. The Head of the Department seems to think that his duty ended with the preparing of the budget and getting the amount for silt-clearance sanctioned. How that money was utilised he does not concern himself with. To site one instance, Sir, the Kunnangattupathy anicut system was ready according to the Overseer for check-measurement after the silt-clearance before the middle of Meenam. Many ryots went to me and convinced me that the silt-clearance was shabby. I at once wrote to the Chief Engineer by the middle of Meenam that the system was ready for check-measurement,that the silt-clearance was shabby, and that he himself should check-measure it and that,if we were informed of the day of his check-measurement,we would be present at the place to show him the result of the unholy alliance between his subordinates and the contractor.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Asked me or the Assistant Chief Engineer?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—To the Chief Engineer. The letter remains unacknowledged. I had put certain questions to know what had happened since. But they are not yet answered. This is true of all the systems. Now with regard to the irrigation itself, the officers do not think that the rules of distribution are made for their guidance but for flouting at the face of the ryots when they request an early supply of water. The Kunnangattupathy system should be opened for diverting water for distribution by the middle of Meenam. This year it was not opened by the end of Meenam. The wet lands under the system require water by the middle of Meenam for *varthu vitha*. If the sowing is not done in Meenam, in *Revathi Jnattuvela*, the result will be a poor crop. All the *varthu vitha* will be over by the 10th of Medam. These fields require water only in Meenam

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onwards. Hence the House will be pleased to see that water was not given at the proper time. There was water in the river. The system was ready for check-measurement. But the tin-Gods were not ready. Between the 15th of Meenam and the diversion of water along the system there had been two freshes in the river. In the other systems also silt-clearance was shabby, the check-measurement was late and crops under the system suffered even though there had been freshes in the river. Sir, the monsoon failed this year also. It was very late. The first crop has suffered. There was no water to raise the seedlings for the second crop. There was water in the river. The Moolathara system was not ready for taking advantage of the floods in the river. If the Department had made use of the water flowing to the sea, we could have raised the seedlings and have transplanted them by the end of Karkadagam for *Karinkora* and in the beginning of Chingam we could begin transplanting the *varthu vithá* lands. Now we have not the seedlings ready for transplantation. Therefore, consider, Sir, what the heart-burnings of the ryots would be for not being able to cultivate at the proper time even though there had been water in the river. And they have to pay for water whether they get it or not. Hence, Sir, unless and until the Government deals with a strong hand, its officers will not be bestirred to do their duty. The whole Department is rotten. The sooner it is put in order, the better. With these few words I recommend the adoption of this motion.

President.—Nobody to support the motion?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I second the motion.

Dr. A. G. Menon & Dr. A. R. Menon.—We want to hear the explanation of the other side. We will carry on the discussion if we are answered.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Last week I went to Chittur, and I was there for two days, but it was not possible to inspect the whole area, but I went over a large portion of it. I made enquiries not only of my subordinates but also of people of the country. I know what is exactly wrong there. For 12 years I was in charge of an irrigation district similar to the Chittur District but 6 or 7 times larger, and every year I heard harangues like that of the Member for Chittur. Rains were unfavourable this year. For 50 days continuously there was no rain when we usually expect rain. On the 3rd of Medam a little rain fell and for 50 days after that there was no rain. Naturally we all expect rain at sowing time. That failed. But in spite of that at present the crops are in good order except in a small portion of the Moolathara system on high level lands. In such places sowings had to be replaced by transplantation. That sort of

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thing will happen in a system which is not protected by reservoirs. If you have some means of storing up water, such things will not happen. So long as we do not have a reservoir, we must expect little troubles like this during unusual year, when there is no rain for 50 days as in this year from the 3rd Medam to 20th Mithunam. Since then we have had good rain and crops are in good order. If rains fail again, we may have more serious difficulty. It is useless to cry tiger, tiger, before the tiger comes. The charge that I and all my subordinates are corrupt, is one which, as I said, I have heard before.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There is some talk and there is some reality.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Well, I do not know that. The Special Finance Committee has recommended that a new division must be formed. Probably one of the divisional Engineers may be posted at Chittur. It depends upon you to pass that recommendation. You will then have an Engineer always near you.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That will be a great check.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—It is very difficult to control a large staff.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—How many complaints have been received?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I sent a detailed report to the Government before the Council commenced. Unfortunately I have not a copy of it with me now. There is nothing in particular in it. You know better than me.

Dr. A.G. Menon.—That is the reason why we all bring this to the notice of the Government. The fact is generally neglected that Chittur is a part and parcel of Cochin State, that we collect the largest revenue from Chittur, that our money is taken to Ernakulam and Trichur Taluks.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, it is not a simple question as it seems to us all. The quantity of water sufficient for the cultivation of a little area will not be sufficient when the area is extended. All the promises made for this matter will not do, and unless measures are taken to reserve water, you will never be able to supply sufficient water. What is happening to-day? Those, who have got that pertinacity, persistently follow him and worry him to get water. Other people will not get water, because I myself know—and they tell me why do you not go and see so and so, Sir—it cannot be done because we cannot speak to him on a subject like that. That is the only way in which you could get it. Everybody is very anxious to get a little of water for the cultivation, and naturally when we people persistently follow and

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persistently worry the head of the people who are entrusted with the institution, some water is given. That creates intense irritation, sometimes anger, because some people influence and get their favour. Now there is a gentleman there under the designation of Section Superintendent. He is the gentleman who distributes the water and turns the course of water. He is held in high esteem and reverence. So far as Chittur is concerned, he commands greater respect and greater reverence than the Diwan of Cochin State. If anybody is anxious to propitiate this gentleman, it is impossible. He is given the magnificent sum of Rs. 25--30. He must be an angel, if he does not succumb to certain influences. I will blame nobody. I do not bring forward any charge against him. It is human nature. The Head of the Department must pay a little more attention to this outlandish place, where there is no splendour, where there is no grandeur, as against places which are showy and convenient to the Members, places that allow Alwaye water for drink and construct reservoirs. Therefore, Sir, all these things are paid from the fields. May I request you then that there have been persistent complaints that the Chief Engineer is not giving a visit to that place? May I request that the first thing you would do will be to visit that place and use your extraordinary knowledge in irrigation as a specialist in irrigation for the benefit of the people in that locality ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. എസ്സ്. ഹരിഹരയ്യർ.—സർ, പോത്തുണ്ടി സർവ്വോയർ സ്കീം അധികം പണം ചിലവാക്കി contours of canals മുതലായത ഉണ്ടാക്കി.

റാവുബഹദ്ദർ മിസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ കുര്യൻ.—പോത്തുണ്ടി ഇറിട്ടീഷ്യൻ അതുത്തിയിൽ പെട്ടതല്ലെ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. എസ്സ് ഹരിഹരയ്യർ.—ഞാൻ കൊച്ചിയിൽപെട്ട പോത്തുണ്ടി ഭാഗത്തെപറ്റിയാണ് പറയുന്നത്.

ഞാൻ പോത്തുണ്ടി സ്കീമിനെപറ്റി പറയുന്നത്, അത് ചിലപ്പോൾ ആലോചിക്കും, ചിലപ്പോൾ ഇല്ല; ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു നിശ്ചിതമായ നയമില്ലാതെ പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നതിനെ കാണിക്കുവാനാണ്. ഈ സ്കീം വളരെ പണം ചിലവാക്കി തയാറാക്കിയതാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഇതേവരെ ഒന്നും പ്രവൃത്തിയിൽ കാണുവാനില്ല. ഓരോരൊ ദിവാനും ഓരോരൊ ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയരും വരുന്നുണ്ട്, പോകുന്നുണ്ട്. അവരവർ അവരവർക്ക് തോന്നുന്നതുപോലെ കുറെ പണം ചിലവാക്കി ഓരോ സ്കീമും ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഒന്നിനും സ്കീം ഉണ്ടാക്കിയവർ പോയാൽ ഒരു സ്ഥിരതയും കൊടുത്തുകാണുന്നില്ല. പോത്തുണ്ടി സ്കീം നടപ്പിലാക്കുവാൻ വളരെ പണം, ഏ ൫ ലക്ഷത്തോളം ഉറുപ്പിക ചിലവുണ്ടെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ കേട്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്.

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നല്ലനിശ്ചയമില്ല. അറിയുവാനും ഇപ്പോൾ തരമില്ലെന്നു് പറയുന്നു. അതു വലിയ സ്കീം ഒന്നും നടപ്പിലാക്കിയില്ലെങ്കിലും temporary അണക്കെട്ടെങ്കിലുമുണ്ടാക്കിയാലും മതിയാകുന്നതാണു്. സാധാരണയായി പോത്തുണ്ടി പാടത്തിലും, നെമ്മാറ ഫക്കാവിലും പാടത്തിലും കൃഷിവയ്ക്കുന്നകാലത്തു് വെള്ളം ഇല്ലാതെ വളരെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടേണ്ടിവരുന്നു. തിരുവാതിര ഞാറുവേലയിൽകൂടി കൃഷി തെറിപോകുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആ സമയത്തു പുഴകളിൽ ten to twenty cussex വെള്ളം ഒലിക്കുന്നുമുണ്ടു്. ഒരിക്കൽ കൃഷിതെറിയുമ്പോൾ ഞാൻ അവിടെ ചെന്നു് നോക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. തിരുവാതിര ഞാറുവേലയിൽകൂടി നടൽ സാധിക്കാതെയും നട്ടതു് ഉണങ്ങു് ബാധിച്ചും നശിച്ചുപോകുന്നു. ചിങ്ങമാസം മുതൽ വൃശ്ചികം വരെ വെള്ളത്തിനു് സാമാന്യം ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു വരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അക്കാലത്തു പുഴയിൽ വെള്ളം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. അതുകൊണ്ടു് വലിയ ചിലവു് ചെയ്തു് പോത്തുണ്ടി സ്കീം കൊണ്ടുവന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും ചിറ്റൂർപോലെ പോത്തുണ്ടിയിലും കല്ലുചാടിയിലും പുഴ ഒലിവു മാത്രം തിരിച്ചു് ചാലുണ്ടാക്കി വെള്ളം കൃഷിക്കു് അയക്കുവാൻ തരമുണ്ടോ എന്നു് ആലോചിക്കണം. അതുപോലെ തിരിച്ചു് വെള്ളം നടത്തിയാൽ വൃശ്ചികം മുപ്പതുവരെയുള്ള വെള്ളത്തിന്റെ കഷ്ടത തീരും. അതുവരെ ഇവിടെ വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. ഇങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്താൽ കുടിക്കുടെ അവിടെ ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന ഉണങ്ങു കുടാതെയും കഴിക്കാം. ഇതു ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ പതിയുന്നതിലേക്കു് ഇത്രയും പറഞ്ഞതാണു്.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

(*The motion was withdrawn with leave of the Council.*)

Motion No. 35.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the total allotment under "Demand No. XXVII" by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 35 by Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, I tabled this motion to call the attention of the House to the fact that proper attention is not paid to villages in the matter of roads and bridges. The Chief Engineer was of opinion that it is impossible to construct bridges all over the river in the Mukundapuram Taluk. In the Mukundapuram Taluk there are three important rivers. For all these three there are only four bridges, and all these bridges were constructed 100 years ago. After that no new bridges were constructed by our new Engineers. Some more bridges must be constructed at least at intervals of a dozen years. If the Chief Engineer will take the trouble of

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visiting these villages during the monsoon, *i. e.*, during floods, he will be easily convinced that these bridges are far more important than the Nelliampathy scheme where he had to encounter a she-bear which was very fond of young Jewesess. So I request the Hon'ble Member to visit the villages during the time of floods and do the needful and not to form opinions without visiting the localities.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—From the time of the monsoon I was watching for a flood but it did not come.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar —Now the river is up and is the proper time to pay a visit.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 36.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9,49 405 for "Public Works" by Rs. 1,50,000.*

President.—Motion No. 36 by Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A Ramachandra Ayyar.—I do not wish to move.

(*Hence the motion was deemed withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 37.

Mr. A. B. Salem —*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 9 49,405 for "Public Works" by Re. 1.*

President.—Mr. A. B. Salem, motion No. 37.

Mr. T. K Krishna Menon.—The Member is absent, Sir.

(*Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.*)

President.—The question before the House is Demand No. XXVII—Public Works of Rs. 11,7 ,035 minus Rs 20,000 be granted.

Question put and agreed to.

Demand No. VI - Excise—Rs. 2,84,814.

President.—Demand No VI, Excise.

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—While asking the leave of the House to grant the demand under Excise, I wish to explain the Excise policy followed in the State for the information of this House.

The Council rose for the day at 2 minutes to 5 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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